

# SWITZERLAND

ILLUSTRATED

IN A

SERIES OF VIEWS TAKEN EXPRESSLY FOR THIS WORK

BY W. H. BARTLETT, ESQ.

By

WILLIAM BEATTIE, M.D.

GRAD OF THE UNIV. OF EDIN., MEMB. OF THE ROYAL COLL. OF PHYS. LONDON,  
OF THE HISTOR. INSTITUTE OF FRANCE, (AUTHOR OF A RESIDENCE IN GERMANY, ETC

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Que tout plait dans ces lieux à mes sens étonnés !  
D'un tranquille océan l'eau pure et transparente  
Baigne les bords fleuris de ces champs fortunés  
D'innombrables côtes ces champs sont couronnés  
Bacchus les embellit leur insensible pente  
Vous conduit par degrés à ces monts sourcilieux  
Qui pressent les enfans et qui fludent les rieurs  
Le voilà ce théâtre et de pitié et de gloire !  
Voilà ces monts affreux célébrés par l'histoire !"

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## CONTENTS OF VOL. II.

Fr. 152

**CANTONS OF ST GALL AND APPENZEL**—St. Gall—Wendenberg, and Altschönenberg Feudal Customs. Abbot of St. Gall. Struggle for Liberty by the Inhabitants. Hundsfeld of Wendenberg. Battle of Wolfshalden. Village of Gams. Mineral Springs. Herens. Wild Aarbach. St. or Chapel of the (St. Oswald in the text, read) Desert. Vesper Hymn of the Appenzellers. Reentrance to St. Gall. Theatricals. Commerce. Population. St. Gall. Disturbances during the French Revolution. The Abbot Peter. Toggenburg. Story of the "Beautiful Ida" 1-12

**THURGAU AND SCHAFFHAUSEN**—Soil, Products, and Manufactures. Lake and Town of Constantine. Council of Constantine, A.D. 445. Sentence and Execution of John Huss. Emperor Sebastian I. Anecdote. Eclipse of the Sun. The Cathedral. Village and Palace of Frodenburg. Chateau of Wolfberg. Happart War. Geology. Amargen. Canton of Schaffhausen. Mode of Government, Taxation, &c. Literary Societies. Falls of Schaffhausen. The Bridge of Gutenberg. Winterthur. Baths of Lohrthal. Bowen upon Zurich. Boomer Annual. Hotel de Pépère. Episode. Historical Retrospect. Civil and Religious Institutions. Death of Lavater and Immingen. Society of the Lake 12-26

**ARGAU, BASEL, AND SOLOTHURNE**—Inhabitants. Religion, &c. Arms. Baths of Baden and Schaffhausen. Sculpture of Albert I. Bridge. Kirschbühl. Assassination of Albert. Castle of Hapsburg. Laufenberg. Rheinfelden. Brunnau. Falkenstein. Route towards Basle 26-48

**CITY AND CANTON OF BASEL**—Political Retrospect. City and University. Cathedral. Schools and Soil. Field and Rolle of St. James. Anecdotes. Retreat of the Dauphin of France 48-57

**CANTONS OF SOLOTHURNE AND NEUCHÂTEL**—Rural Fortresses. Political Condition. Revenue. General Description of the Town of Solothurn. Camargue. Views. Hermitage. The Pastor of Stanz and the Hermit of Saxela. Count Rudolf of Kyburg. Greder. Hattler. Barbara de Rill. Baths of Atrich. Geological and Historical Particulars. Canton of Neuchâtel. Monnerens. The Val de Vaux. The Lake. Mount Val Travers. Town of Neuchâtel. Political Condition. Process of Education, and Religion 57-71

**CANTON OF BERN**—Rousseau's Sanctuary. Island of St. Pierre. Lake of Neuchâtel. Aarberg. Battle of Laupen. The City of Bern. Cathedral. Public Institutions. The English. Bears. Hofwyl. De Hellenberg. Revereat. Cemetery of Lützel. Dornbühl. Monument of Madame de Lausanne. Thus. Society. The Sammelthal. Interesting Migration. Hunt to Inval. Grotto of St. Beat. Internee. "La Bâle Bâleberg." Interlaken. Pass. Festival. The Dance of Death. Castle of Umhausen. Gorge of Lurichstein. Natural Canals. Luterbrunnen. Fall of the South. An Avalanche and Landslip. The Women of Grindelwald. The Jungfrau. Scene of Byron's "Mont Blanc." Grindelwald. Schinder Nacht. Wonderful Escape. The Heidenbach. The Valley of Mercurien. Inhabitants of Hach. Cascade of the Grotto. "Haus des Vaches." The Kimmethal. Geological Facts. Climate. Magistrates. Clergy, &c. 71-103

**LUCERNE AND UNTERALDEN**—Valley of Entbuch. Historical Sketch. Town and Council of Lucerne. The Hofbrücke. General Description. Battle of Morgarten. Death of the Avoyer. Keler. Clara Wendel. The Rigi. Mount Pilate. Sale of Alpach. Grotto of St. Barbara. Stanz. Anecdote of Wankelred. Sarnen. Castle of Landenberg. Lake of Lucerne. The Brun. Legend of the Weirthern. H. Wapfler. Hoppe on the Grindel. The Runds Alp. The Rander. The Glemma 103-123

**CANTONS OF Fribourg AND VAUD**—Internal Resources. Manners. Rural Festivals. Town of Mont. City of Fribourg. College. Cathedral. Two Languages. New Iron Suspension Bridge. Herens. Age of St. Mandel. The Ossuary. Battle of Mont. Route towards Avenches. Fribourg. Verden. Sketch of its History. Postal and his system. Battle of Grandson. Detail. Charles the Bold. Approach to Lausanne. Prospect from the Signal. Canton Description of the Town. The Palace of la Palud. Town House. The Towers. Chateau Cantonal. Cathedral. Glem's Cemetery. Public Cemetery. John Kemble. Village and Port of Ouchy. Lord Byron. M. de Virey. M. de Virey. Chateau. Steam Boats. Bazar. Baths of Allas. Virey. Festival of the Virey. Palace. Castle of Chillon. Sketch. Chateau. Willems. Hoppe. and Pass of the Great St. Bernard. Conclusion 123-132

\* Situated on the edge of a small lake, called the *Xurro-see*, varying from 35 to 63 feet in depth, and said to contain fish. The other lake is about 40 yards higher on the *Yalla* side. The *Maessee* is now used as an ion, and travelers accommodate at the usual charges. Compare this note with the description in the text.

*N.B.* The above volume is the found to contain—*Historical Sketch, Statistics, Society and Manners, Education, Literature, and Natural History, Notes on Climate, Allusion to Tourists and Residents, Mineral and Thermal Waters of the Is. Their Mineralogy, Botany and Zoology, Geographical and Characteristic Sketch, Languages and Traditions, Japanese Customs and Usages, Agriculture and Religious Faith, Arts, Architecture, Produce, Manufactures, and much of everything matter the term of personal intercourse with the country and people of Switzerland.*

\* The text in brackets at the end of the volume, unless where otherwise expressed, is original.

## SWITZERLAND.

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Un mélange étonnant de la nature sauvage, et de la nature cultivée. Au levant, les fleurs du printemps—au midi, les fruits de l'automne—au nord, les glaces de l'hiver—tous les climats dans le même lieu—toutes les saisons dans le même instant.—ROUSSEAU

HELVETIA, thine the prowess of the Spartan !  
Well hath thy hand responded to thy heart ,  
Deep have thy fields of Morât and Morgarten  
Engraved thy name in glory's dazzling chart !  
'What pulse but thrills—what spirit doth not start  
To tread the soil thy patriot champions freed '  
To list the tales thy Alps and lakes impart—  
The hallowed flame at Freedom's shrine to feed,  
And live like TELL, or die like WINKELMANN —B.

WERDENBERG and Altstetten—the principal towns, or rather villages, in our route—are both distinguished in the page of history as the centre of important transactions, to some portion of which we may advert as we skirt the cantons of Appenzell and St. Gall.

In the beginning of the fifteenth century, when the exploits of the confederate Swiss had awakened both envy and admiration among the pastoral inhabitants of Appenzell, the latter were mortified by the humiliating comparison between themselves and their more fortunate neighbours. Subjects of the abbey of St. Gall, they were burdened with taxes, insulted by the collectors, and treated as slaves rather than subjects of a religious establishment. Arbitrary measures were enforced by the servants of the abbot, and extortion openly practised in the pretended discharge of their functions. One of these, the intendant of Schwendi, having imposed a heavy and arbitrary tax upon the produce of the dairy, whoever attempted to evade the payment was attacked by two ferocious dogs; and if he appealed to law, was not only denied all redress, but heard with derision, and dismissed with insult.

The governor of Appenzell continued, in the exercise of his claim as heriot, to harass and exasperate the people in a manner which nothing but the force of habitual degradation and suffering, and a sense of their own inferiority in numerical strength, could have tolerated. As one of his established claims, the governor was heir to the best suit of clothes left by every individual who died within his district, and in one instance, where, in the case of a poor family, this right had been disputed or overlooked, he caused the body to be taken from the grave, and stript of the dress in which the children had buried their parent. Cases of similar outrage against humanity we pass over but at length the indignation of the inhabitants, kindled into action, was directed to the cryes of these human vultures, whom, with exemplary forbearance, they merely expelled from the scenes and exercise of their iniquitous practices.

The abbot, alarmed at these symptoms of freedom, appealed to his allies, the ten imperial towns of Suabia, who, regardless of the representations made by the deputies of Appenzell, reinstated the governors in office. These, flushed with the victory thus obtained, and instigated by revenge, redoubled their exactions, and inflicted upon the inhabitants every curse of feudal despotism. In the mean time, the inhabitants of St. Gall began, also, to feel and resent certain imposts on the part of the abbot, and, instigated by the same fears and interests, entered into an alliance with their neighbours of Appenzell for the mutual protection of their ancient rights. To defeat this, the abbot increased

the cliffs speedily intimated their advance, and the Appenzellers, taking leave of their wives and children, rushed forth to meet the torrent. Reinforced by two hundred men from Glaris, and three hundred from Schwyz, they mustered two thousand strong—the entire male population, with the exception of the aged and children. Fifty of the Appenzell shepherds posted themselves so as to command the hollow way, while their auxiliaries from Schwyz and Glaris planted their subdivisions in the wood. The enemy's cavalry advanced in excellent order, but in an instant the eighty men in ambush opened upon them with their slings and lances, while the others, debouching from the thickets, attacked them in flank, and thus hemmed in and maddened by the missiles showered upon them, the cavalry were thrown into confusion. With desperate efforts and serious loss, however, they gained the summit, but there, being encountered by the entire force of Appenzell, led by Jacob Hartsch, their position became worse, and their leaders, anxious to regain the plain, where the Appenzellers would follow and lose their present advantage, gave the word "Back!" This ominous monosyllable, repeated from rank to rank, and meeting those in the rear, led to a supposition that the day was lost, and struck a thorough panic into the advancing column. Seizing their advantage, the Confederates rushed upon the disordered troops from every point, and inflicted dreadful havoc upon them as they fled in confused masses along the hollow. Six hundred cavaliers in heavy mail lay dead in the pass, while their comrades, galled by the slings, and swords, and clubs of the shepherds, broke down the ranks of their own infantry, and crushing their unhappy associates, greatly added to the terror and carnage of the day.

The tidings of this disaster carried grief and consternation into the ten imperial towns—all of which had lost, in support of the abbot, many of their best citizens and most experienced soldiers. A reluctant peace was the consequence. The abbot was abandoned to his own resources, and feeling the critical position into which the temporal interests of the church were thus thrown, he made a powerful appeal to Frederick of Austria, taking for the basis of his argument, that unless these insurrections were immediately crushed by his powerful arm Appenzell would be annexed to Switzerland, and every inch of the Austrian possessions sold to foment the rebellion. This prediction startled the duke for the loss of the Higher Alps, where himself and subjects possessed sovereignty and seignory, was a danger not to be incurred so long as he had a single regiment at his disposal. After some deliberation, therefore, he promised once more to interpose his powerful arm. A numerous force, commanded by experienced nobles, was speedily under arms, and forming itself into two divisions, marched

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Early on the morning of the 15th May, 1403, a numerous body of cavaliers, brilliantly harnessed, marched at the head of five thousand infantry, and crossing the Lansenbühl, proceeded to occupy the heights of Voeglinsack, where the hamlet of Speicher is situated. The watchmen stationed along

upon Arbon and St Gall. The news of this fresh armament summoned the Appenzellers once more to their standard, an assembly was instantly called to concert measures of defence, and while yet deliberating, Rudolf of Werdenberg suddenly entered the circle, and thus addressed the patriots. "The duke's army is again in motion—and even now, perhaps, violates our sacred frontier—driving the car of destruction over our hearths, and the brands of desolation into our dwellings. Ye all know me—who, and whence I am, now learn, also, wherefore I thus abruptly intrude on your deliberations. The sacred ground of Werdenberg, transmitted to me through a long line of ancestors, whose piety and personal valour were still nobler monuments than their possessions, has been seized by Austrian rapacity, the instruments of whose robbery are even now noting in the hall of my fathers! Stript of my inheritance, I have nothing left but the sword of Werdenberg, and my incorruptible faith, these I offer you with a heart warm in your cause, and an arm prepared to second you in every enterprise. Will you receive me as a free fellow-citizen?"

"We will—we will!" exclaimed the assembly, in one simultaneous shout whereupon the count, stripping himself of the rich dress and arms of a noble, and substituting the coarse habit of a shepherd, exclaimed—"Now am I free indeed!" and wearing the garb of freemen, henceforth I wield only the sword of freedom, and live or die in its cause. This frank avowal won every heart, and well assured from his past conduct that Rudolf of Werdenberg could never act a traitor's part, they elected him by acclamation for their general, and under his directions threw up fortifications along the frontier, renewed the alliance with St Gall, and speedily found themselves in a position to give the invaders a reception worthy of their cause.

On one of those drizzly days which so frequently prevail in the Alps in the month of June, the main body of the Austrian force defiling through the Rheinthal, crossed the frontier of Appenzell, and began their ascent of the An den stoss. The short grass, and the path rendered slippery by the rain opposed great obstacles to their progress, while the Appenzellers, to the amount of four hundred, taking full advantage of those means which the nature of the ground placed at their disposal, and acting on former precedents, continued to roll masses of loosened rock, and logs of timber upon the invaders. The terror and confusion thus occasioned among the Austrians, may be imagined, but though it obstructed it did not stop their progress. At length, when about half way up, Rudolf of Werdenberg gave the signal to charge, and at the same instant the Appenzellers rushed from all sides, uttering fearful shouts, and



talling upon the enemy's broken files, committed dreadful havoc Rudolf, bare-footed, like those he led and who thus found a surer footing, pressed his advantage. The bows of the Austrians, now that the strings had become relaxed and useless from the rain, were only an incumbrance, their spears and swords, therefore, opposed to those of the shepherds, maintained for some time a desperate conflict, and compensated for other disadvantages by receiving a constant accession to their numbers. Suddenly, a fresh body of Appenzellers debouched from the wood, and manœuvring as if they intended to cut off the Austrians' retreat, the latter became panic-struck at the sight, fled precipitately, and, being pursued for six hours along the Rheinthal, by the vindictive swords of their opponents, left many of their bravest combatants in the track.

In the mean time, the second division of the Austrians, led by the Duke in person, and laying waste the country through which it advanced, encamped in great force and splendour under the ramparts of St Gall. These, however, as he conjectured, being too strong and well manned to surrender without a struggle, the duke waved the experiment, and directed the full tide of his vengeance towards Arbon. But here the citizens, forming themselves into reconnoitring bands, gave his advanced guard such a warm reception near the Hauptshberge, as to stagger the whole body, and convince their leader that the march to Appenzell was not to be a triumphal progress. Informed, at the same time, of the disastrous events on the Stoss, his rage and disappointment knew no bounds, and he made a solemn vow on the spot not to leave the country, till he should have inflicted summary chastisement upon the authors of this disgrace to the Austrian flag. But while princes only propose, God disposes. Resolved on the accomplishment of his sanguinary project, the duke caused it to be given out that his orders were to march back into the Tyrol, and with this appearance he continued his retreat towards the Rhine. On reaching the village of Thal, however, the *ruse* was dropt, his real object divulged, and the troops ordered to scale the steep acclivities of the Wolfshalden—a measure by which he hoped to entrap the Appenzellers in the midst of their security, and exercise fearful retaliation for his late defeat. The latter, accustomed to witness the tempest burst over their heads, even from a blue sky, were prepared for the same transition in the moral as in the natural world, so that where the Austrians expected to find them asleep, they found the sentinels at their post, the whole population on the alert, and Werdenberg and his warriors, fully apprised of the mysteries of the game, ready to rush upon them once more with the appalling shout of—"Freedom and Appenzell!"

The Austrians, justly apprehensive of an ambuscade, and hastily assuming

the defensive, met the assailants on an advantageous post near the church, and fought with a courage worthy of a better cause. Forty of the Appenzellers sank under the swords and spears of the invaders, but over their bodies, their sons and brothers rushed with such impetuosity, that the duke's second ranks were broken at several points, the brave fell fighting, the mass fled, and the declivities of the Wolfshalde were strewn with the slain. The rout was complete, and with the double disgrace of detection and discomfiture, Frederick of Austria withdrew his shattered forces beyond the Rhine. The result needs not here be dwelt upon. The people of Appenzell had now evidence of their own strength, and with the fame of their exploits, united the sweets of freedom. The hereditary possessions of Werdenberg were wrested from the Austrians, and restored to their owner, while Rudolf, in the proud association of shepherds, enjoyed that happy independence to which, by his sword and counsel, he had so richly contributed.

For nearly a century past, the village of Gais, not far from the scene of this victory, and two thousand eight hundred and eighty feet above the sea, has been much resorted to by strangers, as well as natives, for the sake of the goats' whey-diet, or milken kur, which has been found to contribute very essential benefit in cases where more artificial means have failed. Of this beverage, upwards of a hundred quarts are consumed every morning during the summer. It is brought quite fresh and warm from the chalets, in the high pasturage of the Sentis Alp, and distributed in glasses to the guests who meet every morning at the sound of a bell—a signal employed to draw the whey-drinkers from their several apartments, which, owing to the great influx of visitors for some years past, are often difficult to be procured.

\* The salutary effects of this simple regimen, aided by exercise, amusement, and the invigorating air of these mountains, gain fresh testimony every season. In certain states of disease in the pulmonary and digestive organs, a course of goat's whey has been found eminently successful, and may be still further improved in its beneficial virtues, by combining it with the jelly of Iceland moss.

Several mineral springs in the immediate neighbourhood enjoy considerable reputation for their salubrious qualities. Of these, the Baths of Grut and Schüsselmühle, as well as Weissbad and Waldstatt, are much frequented, and often employed in conjunction with the whey regimen.\*

\* On the employment of the whey diet, no fixed rules have been laid down; but able advice is to be had on the spot from the resident physicians, who have devoted the greatest attention to the subject, and can pronounce with almost certainty on every case where it may be prescribed with specific advantage. Those who wish for more particular information on this subject will find it amply treated in Steiner's *Heilkräuter* and in a similar work by Knebel.

Herisau is the chief place of the canton. It contains several manufacturing establishments, chiefly of linen, and embroidered muslins, which are a source of prosperity to the inhabitants. The situations of the Rosenberg, and Schwanburg, formerly occupied by castles which were razed during the struggle for liberty, are universally admired as points of view. The approach to the convent of Wormenstein, the ravine of Urnesch and Hündwyl, where the Protestant inhabitants hold their general meetings every two years,\* are all interesting, and full of attractions to the pedestrian, who would earn the luxury of health by the exercise of his limbs

" Are not these mountains, waves, and skies, a part  
Of thee and of thy soul as thou of them?  
Is not the love of these deep in thy heart  
With a pure passion?"

" To sit on rocks—to muse o'er flood and fell,  
To slowly trace the forest's shady scene  
Where things that own not man's dominion dwell  
And mortal foot hath ne'er, or rarely been  
To climb the trackless mountain all unseen  
With the wild flock that never needs a fold  
Alone o'er steeps and foaming falls to lean  
This is not solitude, 'tis but to hold  
Converse with nature's charms, and view her stores unrolled

Before closing our sketch of this canton, we shall add a few words on the Wild Kirchlein, or chapel of the desert, to which most of those who visit this sublime scenery devote a day's excursion. From the Baths of Weissbad, a rugged path, steep, and strewn with the debris of rocks, conducts across the Bommen Alp, and in about an hour and a half, brings us to a wooden bridge, suspended over a frightful chasm, and leading to a chapel, ingeniously constructed in a cavern of the rocks. Few scenes can be more appalling than what is here offered, in taking the first step on the bridge. Most spectators, unless familiar with such scenes, experience an involuntary shudder as they suddenly come in sight of the precipice beneath, which descends to a depth of two hundred and fifty feet perpendicular, and the wild and savage grandeur with which the whole scene is invested. The view to the south is magnificent comprising the still, silvery lake of the See-Alp scooped out of the Sentis, and giving birth to the Sitter, the glittering course of which is also a striking

\* The Landsgemeinde or general assembly comprising about ten thousand of the male population, is held at Trogen, in May. The most interesting of these political meetings are those of the cantons, and Schwyz and Glaris.



feature in the picture. Immediately overhead, the rocky walls of the Eben-Alp soar into the sky, and shut out the world; while precipices and valleys, frowning with winter, or brilliant with verdure, come alternately into view, and by singular contrasts, give a character to the landscape which it is impossible to describe.

Having accomplished this pass, the church of the desert, as its name imports, comes into sight; and a more extraordinary position for a shrine it would be difficult to select, even in the Alps. Behind the chapel, a grotto opens into the rock, the walls of which are covered with *lac-lune*; and here an altar is erected. The view from the window is unrivalled. This savage and solitary retreat was chosen by a native of Appenzell, named Ulmann, who built the chapel in 1656, and made the cavern his abode. From that time, the second grotto has been occupied during the fine season, by a hermit, who rings the chapel bell five times every day—a signal at which the shepherds of the Alps fall on their knees in the exercise of prayer. The following stanzas may, perhaps, serve as a specimen of the vesper-hymn which is still heard undulating from cliff to cliff, when the sun goes down, and the shepherds of Appenzell accompany his setting with prayer.

Brothers! the day declines, above the glacier brightens,  
And red through Hundwyl pines, the vesper halo lightens  
From hamlet, rock, and chalet, your grateful song be poured,  
Till mountain, lake, and valley, re-echo—Praise the Lord!

The sun sleeps in the west; the stars gleam bright and cold,  
And bring the hour of rest to the shepherd and his fold  
Now swell the mountain chorus to Him our sires adored,  
Whose glorious works before us, still whisper—Praise the Lord!

And hark! below, aloft, from cliffs that pierce the cloud,  
From blue lake calm and soft, lulled in its twilight shroud—  
Fresh strength our anthem gathers; from Alp to Alp 'tis poured—  
The song that soothed our fathers—Ye shepherds, praise the Lord!

Now, from forest, flood, and fell, let the voice of old and young—  
All the strength of Appenzell—true of heart, and sweet of tongue,  
The grateful hymn prolong, and tune the spirit's chord  
Till ye stars take up our song—Hallelujah to the Lord!—M.S.

Re-entering the canton of St. Gall, on our route into that of Thurgau, or Thurgovie, the capital offers attractions of which most travellers will gladly avail themselves. The style of its private and public edifices—its squares and capacious streets, with numerous ornamental fountains, give it an air of elegance and luxury peculiarly striking. The Benedictine Abbey, the original nucleus of the town, and for so many ages the residence of its prince-abbots, though

now curtailed of its privileges, is still an object of deep veneration among the faithful, and like its neighbour, Einsiedeln, the resort of numerous pilgrims, by whose liberality and superstition the tomb of St Gall is rendered a source of extensive and voluntary tribute. The Abbey Church, a magnificent structure, with the buildings of the ancient abbey, and another, called the Pfalz, or palace, serve as the residence of the government, while the Convent has been converted into a college of public instruction, under the direction of eleven professors. The churches of St Lawrence, and St Mangen, the Arsenal, the Orphan Hospital, and the Casino, are the principal buildings, of which the hospital is particularly striking. The Library, long celebrated for its rare treasures, is arranged in a magnificent hall. It contains upwards of a thousand manuscripts, part of the collection formed by the historian Tschudi, the *Nibelungenlied*, a manuscript poem of the twelfth century, upon which some interesting lectures were lately delivered at Gottingen, by Dr Ramm, and the chronicle of Trund. The Town Library contains the manuscripts of the celebrated Vadianus, so distinguished at the period of the Reformation as burgomaster of the town, the bust of Zollikofer, the most powerful preacher of his time in Germany, the portrait of Zingg by A Graf, with an extensive cabinet of petrifications from the neighbouring districts. Besides these libraries, another, belonging to a literary society, is rich in all that relates to the history of the country at large, and of St Gall in particular.

The commerce of the place consists chiefly of muslin, extremely fine in texture, and silver embroidery, as well as every other variety of that manufacture, which is here conducted on a much more extensive scale than in any other part of Switzerland. The population of the town is now estimated at ten thousand, constituting about a thirteenth part of that of the canton, which is annually increasing. Of the entire population, the Catholic part is estimated at eighty thousand, that of the reformed at fifty thousand, who inhabit chiefly the capital, the small district of Werdenberg, and predominate in the valleys of Toggenburg and the Rhine. The effects of industry are every where more or less evident, but a great portion of the rural population still groan under the trammels of ignorance and superstition—a yoke more difficult to throw off than that of despotism. Education, however, begins to extend its influence and to be held in just appreciation. Let us hope, therefore, that the day may soon arrive, when their love of education will rival that of liberty, and when these two inestimable blessings will be found mutually to embrace and consolidate each other.

The great council of the canton, consisting of one hundred and fifty members,

with the landamman at their head, exercise the sovereign power, and elect from their own body the lesser council of thirteen members, in whom is reposed the administrative and executive authority. The supreme tribunal, at which nine judges preside, is constituted in like manner. The two religious professions administer their ecclesiastical affairs, as well as whatever relates to religious establishments and the business of education, separately. The reformed clergy constitute a synod, which assembles once every year at St Gall, at which two members of the government are present. With the exception of Sargans, on the Grison frontier, the Catholic clergy have hitherto formed part of the diocese of Constance. Of the monastic establishments which still flourish in the canton, there are four convents, and eleven nunneries, all more or less richly endowed, and possessing temporal as well as spiritual interests in the country. The facilities for education, and the incentives to industry, are happily on the increase, and the prospects of the canton, as applicable to its moral and political condition, prosperous and encouraging.

At the tumultuous epoch of the French Revolution, St Gall, like its neighbours, became the scene of anarchy and misrule. The people could no longer bear the accumulating weight of taxes, court exactions, and acts of servitude, by which they were excluded from the blessings of freedom, and held in degrading bondage. With every accession of new territory to the abbey, their own rights and privileges were curtailed: they felt that their privations increased in proportion as their monastic rulers prospered. Five of the communes, therefore, speedily seconded by others, laid their grievances before the abbot, and claimed redress for sixty different abuses which had come to light. The Abbot Beda, a man of enlightened mind, and a native of Thurgau, knowing the necessities of the people, would gladly have lessened their burdens, but of all his ecclesiastics, two only seconded him in a purpose so just and laudable. Much intrigue and negotiation on the part of the monks followed. At length the Prince-Abbot, detecting their artifice, represented to them the imminent danger of fomenting, at such a crisis, the quarrels between rulers and their subjects. Peace was the end, conciliatory measures the only arms to be employed in a question which they were bound by their character to convert to the glory of God, and the good of his people. 'But,' said he, "if ye be resolved to risk the consequences by openly resisting our subjects, I withdraw from the unholy contest, and throw myself at once into the arms of my people." The result of this was, the concession of extensive privileges, by which the people were empowered to choose their own senate and council of war, to hold general assemblies, to nominate the municipal officers, and to purchase exemption

from their oppressive burthens Servitude was also abolished, and an act published, by which all ecclesiastics, and others engaged in the public service—but hitherto exempted by virtue of office—were ordered to contribute their portion to the expenses of the state Blessings were poured on the good Beda from every corner of the jurisdiction, but the monks, although in appearance consenting to these salutary measures, were inwardly incensed at his submission, and continued to lay insidious plans for defeating his object With this view, they signed a secret act for the defence of their rights against the people—rights, which had only originated and been perpetuated through a long course of tyranny, and to this, even the guardians of the abbey clandestinely assented, and fomented the opposition against the pious and philanthropic views of the worthy abbot So difficult is it for those who have once tasted the sweets of power, and the fruits of despotism, to become amenable to the same laws, and members of the same community, with the humble, but more worthy, citizens whose rights they have abused

At length, when the arms of Austria had won some temporary advantage in Swabia, and had crossed the Rhine to prosecute the campaign in Switzerland, the cause of freedom seemed for a time paralysed. St Gall had now a new abbot, in the person of Pancratius Forster, who, countenanced by a change in the political aspect of the country, began his career by re-establishing on his territory a degree of servitude still more insupportable than the former He annulled, by the hands of Austrian dragoons, the articles of emancipation previously accorded. He broke open the national archives, and carried off the important documents they contained But he soon experienced the fatal results of his measures, and felt that power, founded on injustice, is but a fortress built on sand, which the first floods will overthrow Perceiving that men are never so strong as when they act under a consciousness of right, and contend for their natural privileges as citizens, the abbot was soon convinced that there was but one alternative to which a people, now roused from their lethargy, and actuated by the all pervading spirit of freedom, could submit, and thus was the confirmation of those rights in which they had been so lately installed by his predecessor—the pious and patriotic Beda.

On the many interesting subjects to which we should advert in a survey of this territory, the brevity of our plan will not permit us to dilate But we would recommend all who visit those districts, to make the tour of the Toggenburg, so famous for the war of that name, and so remarkable for the beauty and grandeur of its natural scenery The ancient counts of Toggenburg were the most “potent signiors” of Switzerland Their domestic fortress crowned



a rock not far from the present convent of Fischlingen. It was from a window of this castle that the Count Henry, in a paroxysm of jealousy, precipitated his wife, "the beautiful Ida, into the chasm at its base. On the finger of her page he had perceived her wedding ring, which, having been left at an open lattice, had been carried off by a raven, and dropt at the foot of the rocks, where the servant, unconscious of its value or character, had picked it up, and, by way of security, put it on his finger. Ida, however, made a miraculous escape from the summary and unjust punishment intended for her, by laying hold of some shrubs that overhung the fearful abyss, and held her for a time suspended between life and death. After her rescue, her innocence was fully proved, and acknowledged by all. But incapable of longer cherishing affection for a husband, who, in addition to the violent death intended for herself, had caused the innocent servant to be dragged to death at the tail of a wild horse, (a fact which might have suggested the story of Mazeppa) she withdrew from worldly admiration, and, ending her clouded pilgrimage in a cell at Fischlingen, left her piety as an example to all her sex, and her story as a legacy to some poet of after times. Let us hope that the subject, and its scenery—a virgin theme—may yet attract the notice of some modern troubadour, and the story of the beautiful Ida be clothed with the charms of song.

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## THURGAU AND SCHAFFHAUSEN

The Swabian watersl on whose slumbering breast  
 The Rätian Alps repose in shadowy rest  
 While faint and far along the pine-clad height  
 The village church and watch-tower glimmer white  
 And o'er the forest frown in snowy swell  
 The proud and peopled cliffs of Appenzell.—\*

THE Canton of Thurgau lays claim to none of those sublime and savage features which characterise the cantons of the higher Alps. The wild and the wonderful, the snowy desert, the glaciers, the mountain gorge, the dark ravine, the giddy precipice, the foaming torrent, the Alpine pastures, the chalets and their summer population are all replaced by fresh combinations of objects in which the beautiful and the picturesque predominate, and where Nature, laying aside her robe of horrors, is radiant with summer fruits, and ripening with

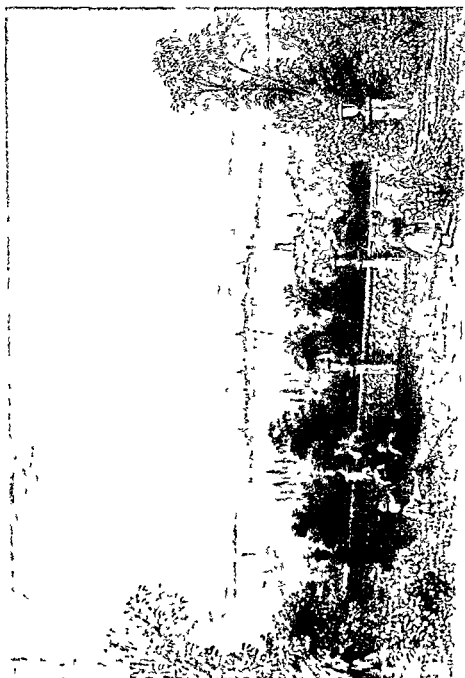
harvests This transition from the storm-girt regions of Appenzell, to the redundant fertility of Thurgau, is one of the most striking that can be met with, the climate and productions of which are as strongly contrasted as those of Spitzbergen and the Bay of Naples Equally populous, cultivated, and productive, the valley of the Thur forms the granary of German Switzerland Wheat fields, vineyards, and orchards, are closely and luxuriantly interspersed—the latter so much so, as to give to the country the appearance of one uninterrupted garden, through whose various and undulating mass of verdure, spires, towers, hamlets, châteaux, and dilapidated forts, glimmer at intervals,—bringing at once the past and present before us, and offering a thousand pleasing anticipations of the future

Frequent along the waters' flowery marge  
In shade or sunshine floated Pleasure's barge  
While, glad from vintage-ground, the *Vignerons*  
Poured forth the pithos of Helvetic song—  
The song of Liberty! whose quickening spell  
Can rouse the frozen chase or forest dell—  
And, heard on Freedom's hills, what heart but owns  
The more than magic thrilling in its tones —•

The hills are all of moderate elevation, rarely exceeding two thousand five hundred feet above Constance, but, enclosing three small lakes well stocked with fish, are at once the reservoir and the source of fertilizing streams The upper Thurgau, or that portion which borders the lake of Constance from Arbon to Stein, presents a scene of unrivalled fertility—producing, generally, two crops of flax in the year, succeeded by a third of rye, and all from the same field A forest of apple and pear trees, the finest in Switzerland, and several leagues in extent, bears ample testimony to the qualities of soil and climate by which this district is so eminently favoured Some of these trees severally yield an annual product of from sixty to a hundred bushels, which, converted to cider, are valued at five or six louis-d or

Agriculture, within the last twenty years, has made great progress, and favoured by the Abbey of Kreutzlingen,—which acts upon the system of rural economy so successfully introduced by M Fellenberg,—it promises to carry that noble art to a degree of perfection hitherto unknown in Switzerland

The manufactures, with the exception of the silk mills at Frauenfeld, are the same as those already stated in St. Gall The linen and cambric of Thurgau, though slightly depreciated since the introduction of cotton, are still in high estimation, and fetch better prices in the market than any yet produced by their neighbours. The principal export is grain, of which a vast quantity



strangers, the Pope, and the Emperor Sigismund, presided. The former, who had succeeded Alexander V, and taken the name of John XXIII, was a man, according to the historians of that day, of insatiable ambition, unbounded avarice, and, though possessing some talents as a politician, without a single redeeming virtue as an ecclesiastic. He made his entry into Constance, attended by nine cardinals, several archbishops and inferior prelates, forming, altogether, a suite of six hundred persons, and was received with all possible magnificence. The whole body of the clergy met him in procession, bearing the relics of saints, offering presents, and celebrating his arrival as a solemn and pompous fête. All the magistracy and civil orders of the city, as well as the vast multitude of foreigners whom the occasion had brought from the remotest parts of Christendom, escorted him in triumph to the episcopal palace, saluting him as the Vicar of Jesus Christ—the Vicegerent of God on earth.\*

Sigismund, however, was, in every respect, the hero of the council, and added to his other imperial titles, that of "Advocate and Defender of the Church." To his person, Nature had been liberal in her favours, he was a man of heroic stature, martial port, and noble presence, and inferior to no prince of his time in personal courage, or knightly accomplishments. Although he had only entered his forty-seventh year, he had experienced more vicissitudes of fortune than any sovereign of his time. His reverses and imprisonment in Hungary, and his ill success against the Turks, had somewhat softened, it is said, his naturally cruel propensities, and taught him lessons of justice and forbearance. But this testimony in his favour is much invalidated by his subsequent conduct during the sanguinary deliberations and sentences of the COUNCIL. It is related of him, that, having one day ennobled a doctor of medicine, (but whom personal merit had already ennobled) he thus expressed himself: "Could I inspire talent as I now confer title, I should have just cause to be proud, but he who in one day can create a hundred nobles, cannot create one man of talent." It was one of his maxims that "a prince who cannot dissemble, is unfit to reign"—a maxim by which his safe conduct to John Huss seems to have been regulated.

When first charged with the crime of heresy, Huss was cited to appear before the tribunal at Rome. Apprehending a design against his life, he dispatched proxies to answer for his orthodoxy, but these were treated with great indignity and thrown into prison. He was then excommunicated, and appealed to the Council of Constance which was on the eve of assembling. In pursuance

\* He was said to have brought with him to the council one million of ducats—the knowledge of which was of itself no small recommendation to popular favour.

While hurrying feet, and wailings to and fro  
 Spread the wild panic of impending woe  
 The prince and prelates shuddered at the sign—  
*The monk stood dumb before the darkened shrine*  
 With faltering hand upraised the cross on high  
 To chase that dismal omen from the sky \*

It is probable that the English monks, at least, who were then present at the council, had not yet forgotten the earthquake which, some years before, had nearly demolished the monastery where they had formed themselves into a tribunal for the trial of Wickliffe \*

As a preliminary to the sentence pronounced upon Huss, seven bishops were appointed for the ceremony of degradation—a process too tedious and disgusting for insertion in these pages. This done, he was delivered by the prelates to the Emperor, as “advocate and defender of the Church, and thence to the Elector Palatine, as Vicar of the Empire, with commands to see the sentence carried into effect. Finally, he was given up to the magistrates of the city, and by them to the executioner, to be burnt in a field, prepared for that tragic spectacle, beyond the walls. The crowd which followed the procession was immense, at which the princes, with an armed escort of eight hundred men, assisted. On his way to the place of martyrdom, Huss was detained in front of the bishop’s palace to witness the public cremation of his own and Wickliffe’s books. Arrived in front of the pile on which he was to be sacrificed, he fell upon his knees, and repeated, with a loud voice, passages from the 51st, and other penitential psalms. At length, when the stated time had expired, he signified a desire to address the people, but was prevented by the Elector Palatine, who gave orders to have the fire kindled forthwith—but the details are too revolting to be ventured upon at large. “Never,” says *Æneas Sylvius*, in his personal narrative of this spectacle—“never did philosopher meet the pangs of natural dissolution with such fortitude, as that with which John Huss, and Jerome of Prague, delivered their bodies to the flames.

In observance of a clause in the sentence, the ashes of the human victim were carefully collected from the pyre, and thrown into the Rhine. When we last visited the spot, we were shown, on removing the long grass with which it was covered, a black oaken stake driven into the ground, intended to mark the centre of the pile, and which had been substituted for the original stone placed there in record of the *auto-da-fé*. From this spot a red clay is procured, of which likenesses of John Huss, and Jerome of Prague, are modelled in

\* See also *Calvus* vs *Tal* Rad. p. 130

of that appeal, Sigismund wrote to Wenceslas to send the alleged heretic to Constance; and Huss, furnished with a safe conduct from the emperor\* for that purpose, and implicitly relying on the good faith of this instrument, was thus ensnared, condemned, and burnt at the stake.

"Un doux inquisiteur, un crucifix en main,  
Au feu, par charité, fit jeter son prochain!"

It was on the seventh of June of the same year that the remarkable eclipse, so often referred to by the writers of the day, took place. At Constance, where the council was assembled, the sun was almost entirely obscured; at Prague, it was a total eclipse. A phenomenon, so appalling at all times, but most so at a period when the belief in miracles was inculcated, and divine interposition in the affairs of men considered as an event of daily and visible recurrence, did not fail to make a powerful impression on the minds of the assembled multitude, but, as might have been supposed, with a two-fold interpretation. It has been thus described:—

The night had waned—but darkness and dismay  
Rose with the dawn, and blotted out the day:  
The council's warder, struck with sudden fear,  
Dropt from his palsied hand the uplifted spear;  
Aghast each gazer saw the mystic power  
That robed in midnight's pall the matin hour

\* When condemned, Huss is reported by the historian of the Council, to have turned round, and, steadily fixing his eye on the emperor, addressed him in these words "Sire, I have now the honour to tender my special thanks for the *passport and safe conduct* vouchsafed me at your imperial majesty's hands." At which the emperor betrayed his feelings by a guilty blush. In allusion to this, Charles V., when pressed at a much later period by the Pope's nuncio, Alexander, to cause an arrest to be issued against Luther, in violation of the *safe conduct* already given him that magnanimous monarch replied, "Yea, I know that my worthy predecessor, Sigismund, without regard to his own honour, and the public faith, delivered up John Huss to the flames, which the holy fathers had kindled for him at Constance, but I have no mind to blush with Sigismund!"—*An Germ Hist de Huss*

In palliation of the emperor's conduct, however, it is but fair to quote a passage from a letter addressed by him to the Bohemians, two years subsequent to the death of Huss—"Dieu sait, et je ne puis l'exprimer, combien j'ai été affligé de son malheur [speaking of Huss], et tous ceux de Bohême, qui étaient alors auprès de moi, ont bien vu quels mouvemens je me suis donné pour cette affaire, et que plusieurs fois je suis sorti du Concile en fureur. J'avais même quitté Constance, lorsque les PERES du Concile me firent dire, que si je ne voulais pas permettre que le Concile exerçât la justice, ils n'avaient que faire à Constance, de sorte que je pris la résolution de ne plus me mêler de cette affaire, parceque, si j'eusse voulu m'intéresser davantage pour Jean Huss, le Concile eût été entièrement dissous. Ce n'est pas [he continues] une assemblée de quelques ecclésiastiques; les ambassadeurs de tous les rois, et de tous les princes chrétiens sont à Constance, et sur tout, depuis que les rois et princes de l'obédience de Pierre de Lune se sont unis avec nous, tout le monde est persuadé de la bonne conduite, et du juste gouvernement du Concile. De sorte que vous ne pourriez soutenir le parti de Jean Huss, sans vous opposer à toute la Chrétienté!"—See MELCH. GOLDBAST *Append. Docum.* p. 150, cited by L'Enfant pref Vol I p. 12.

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\* See also Calvin us Tab. Pud. p. 150

bas relief, hardened in the sun, set on glass, and accompanied with a short notice of these martyrs, offered for sale to strangers

Few who spend any time at Constance, but are thus forcibly reminded of the times to which we allude The Hall of the Council, the Cathedral, and the Augustine Convent, are among the first objects visited, and severally possess many things well calculated to make a lasting impression on the mind The hall, the windows of which command a most beautiful view of the lake, still contains the chairs occupied by the Emperor and Pope, during the long sittings of the council, the canopy of tapestry, the Bible of John Huss, and numerous other relics of the council, and the distinguished individuals connected with it We were informed that the signature of Huss is only a recent discovery, and made on accidentally splitting open the boards of the sacred volume, between which it had been ingeniously concealed, but not obliterated

The Cathedral is a gorgeous structure, and in style and decoration, characteristic of the times in which it was built The pulpit is supported by a statue of the heresiarch, as Huss was designated by his persecutors, and the spot where he received sentence is marked by a brass plate, inserted into a flat stone of extraordinary dimensions

Several convents still flourish within and beyond the city walls, and along the shores of the lake, the sound of whose matin and vesper bells associates well with the place The Franciscan Convent, in a turret of which Huss was at first immured, is now a deserted ruin The Dominican Convent, to which he was afterwards conveyed, when a cell *above* ground appeared too great an indulgence for a denounced heretic, is also a desecrated ruin, being only used for the purpose of a dying and stamping manufactory But every object around forcibly contrasts its original splendour and destination, with its present desertion, profanation and gloom The epitaph of the classic and enlightened Chrysolora—who, like many others, died, and was buried here during the time of the Council—still speaks from the wall in elegant Latin hexameters, the production of Æneas Sylvius \* He was a man of distinguished learning and piety, and contributed

- \* Ille ego quæ Latinas præcætas imitator eras artes  
Expulso, docui sermonum ambagibus, et qui  
Eloquium magni Demosthenis et Ciceronis  
In lucem retuli Chrysoloras nomen notus  
Hic sum post vitam et peregrina in luce quæ esco.  
Huc me Concilium deduxit cura triumphum  
Pontificum Ecclesiam vexaret sæva tyrannus  
Roma meos genuit majores, me bona Tellus  
Byzantia tulit cinerem Constanza servat.  
Quæ maria et loco non refert; undæ quæ cælum  
Panarumque domus mensus adest eadem



more, probably, than any man of his time to the revival and encouragement of literature and the fine arts.

The dungeon, or rather cage, in which Huss was immured, exhibits, in size and situation, a revolting picture of inquisitorial severity.

" *There twilight struggling through its lattice grim,  
Disclosed no spot to stretch the languid limb  
While dungeon-drops, condensing o'er the cell,  
Cold on the fettered captive's bosom fell.\** "

Bodensee, or the lake of the plain, is the vernacular epithet applied to the lake of Constance, which, in expanse and beauty of scenery, is only excelled by that of Geneva—the classic Leman. Although its shores have acquired no peculiar associations from having been the residence of genius—the propitious retreat of poets and philosophers—the scenes, nevertheless, in which its Swiss and Swabian confines abound, are full of mingled beauty and sublimity, and such as, even after a survey of the inland cantons, cannot fail to secure admirers. At sun-set, the evening illumination is splendid—equal, in many instances, to that witnessed from Geneva, Lausanne, and the Jura—

" *When lingering by the lake, and, upt with fire  
The westering sun has gilt each holy spire—  
Called forth in bold relief yon summits bald,  
And tinged with gold the waving Schwarzenwald "*

To the traveller who approaches Constance from the east, the view is strikingly beautiful; but still more so, when, floating on the bosom of the lake, with the Alps on his left, and the vine-clad shores of Suabia on his right—he allows his boat to drift at pleasure, and indulges the luxury of "a summer night's dream."

" *White from the waters, on their western verge  
Constance and her cathedral towers emerge;  
And cross and clouster, tower, and fortress, rest  
A shadowy world within the water's breast! . . .  
Constance ' at sight of thee, fresh from their source  
The Rhine's blue billows stay their rapid course,  
And, round thy walls, in living crystal thrown,  
With glassy arms embrace thee like a zone,  
And smooch their mountain wave to form for thee  
Thy mirror lake—the beauteous Bodensee!* "

It may be doubted by the lovers of the picturesque, whether the twin steamers, which now ply along these beautiful waters, have contributed to their embellishment; they were, certainly, not launched with the consent of poet and painter. But the hand of speculation, ever busy in opening some new

\* For various particulars connected with the affairs of the Council the reader is referred to an anonymous poem, with historical notes, by the writer of these pages entitled, "THE COUNCIL OF CONSTANCE," from which the descriptive stanzas here quoted, and originally written on the spot, are extracted.

source of profit, has given a triumphant answer to the question. The numerous barges which formerly issued from the bay of Rorschach, like a fleet, have now "taken in sail," and crumble in the very harbour to which they were once a source of annual prosperity. On the opposite side of the lake, surrounded by luxuriant vineyards, are the picturesque village and palace of Friedrichshafen, where the present king of Wurtemberg generally spends his *villegiatura*. Among the many beautiful seats in which his territory abounds, there is nothing more beautiful than this. During three summers spent in professional attendance upon the present king, (while duke of Clarence,) at the court of the late queen dowager of Wurtemberg, the writer has often heard described the beauties of Friedrichshafen, and "Langhen-Arghen's leafy shore—beauties which, it appears, are still appreciated by their royal patron, who is justly esteemed one of the most enlightened sovereigns in Europe.

The immediate vicinity of Constance commands many delicious points of view, but that which takes in most, and from which all appear to advantage, is the terrace in front of the *château* of Wolfsberg, on the road to Winterthour, and now in the possession of a gallant Colonel, one of Napoleon's officers. Having escaped the many chances of war—and last, not least, the horrors of a Russian climate, he retired with his wife and family to this beautiful and romantic retreat. Here, to enliven that solitude which the habits of a military life might otherwise find irksome, he receives a limited number of boarders—principally ladies and gentlemen, whom the pursuit of health or relaxation has attracted to these romantic shores—all of whom speak in the highest terms of the soldier host and his lady. The Duchess de St. Leu, ex queen of Holland, has also a handsome villa in the immediate neighbourhood, and to her *soirées* the colonel and his domestic circle are often invited—a circumstance which, considering the intellectual character of the duchess, contributes not a little to the pleasure of a summer residence at the Wolfsberg.\*

\* Yes here be scenes which to the spirit bring  
 Impressions worthiest of its treasuring—  
 Sweet sympathies of sight and sound—the roar  
 Of rushing cataracts—sounds that sink and soar  
 Freshen and faint in turn and still renewed  
 Wake the wild chords of Nature's solitude  
 The sylvan stream—the summer day's farewell,  
 Are fraught with feelings—thoughts—ineffable  
 That mould the heart by their mysterious power—  
 Soothe and attune each passion to the hour †

\* For a more particular notice of this excellent establishment, see *Journal of a Residence at the Courts of Germany during an attendance upon the present Majesties* also Appendix.

† See page 20 note

as an example, before quitting Constance, from what trivial causes the most important consequences may arise, we need only quote the origin of the *Plappart* War. At a shooting match, given here in 1458, a citizen having refused like in exchange from an inhabitant of Lucern, a Bernese coin, called a part, about three farthings value, accompanied his refusal with some empty expression of the Swiss, and their *cour courage*. The scene of civility was speedily converted into an affray, the expression was felt to be a personal insult, and they resolved to resent it in right earnest. Quitting the field, where at the moment their numbers were inferior, the Swiss youth hastened (error is always in haste) to rouse their cantons, and shortly returned with force of nearly four thousand men. With this strong muster, and fired with zeal as if their very hearths and altars had been at stake, they proceeded to lay waste the territory of Constance, telling the inhabitants, that since they had suffered a *plappart*, they had now brought them steel. Unable to check these acts of brigandage, the city of Constance was obliged to open her coffers, and, a considerable sum of money, bribed the "*plappartiers*" to retire beyond the frontier, and quit the scene of depredation.

The small town of Stein, on the north bank of the Rhine, and the first on the *Schaffhausen* frontier, is a point of great commercial activity. The *château* of Cuninghen, a fortress of considerable importance in ancient times, crowns the neighbouring hill, and is much visited for the sake of the fine view. The object of paramount interest, however, and what is unequalled in any part of Europe, is the slate quarry of Cuninghen. The petrifications discovered in working this quarry, are of a character so remarkable, as to have attracted to the spot the principal savans of Europe, and opened a wide field for geological inquiry. In its descent from Constance, the Rhine flows for several miles in a depression of *molasse*, or sandstone, which, being cut through transversely, is exposed in strata, on both banks, at heights varying from seven to nine hundred feet. These hills, consisting of micaceous sandstone, and conglomerate, have been described by Professor Sedgwick and Mr Murchison. The marls and limestone of Cuninghen are recumbent on *molasse*, as seen in various patches on the sides of the hills, and worked in two quarries—the lowest at two hundred feet, the highest about six hundred feet above the level of the Rhine. In both these quarries the marl beds rest on *molasse*, the channel of the Rhine therefore, appears to have been deeply excavated at some remote period in the lapse of time, and a lake to have been formed in one of the broader parts of the valley where the marls and limestone were deposited. Indicating an intimate connection between the ancient state of nature and that which now prevails this

deposit may be considered as an important link in the history of the earth's structure. It differs essentially in its organic remains from any other fresh water formation, either in France, or in the adjacent regions of Germany, and from its superposition over tertiary sandstone, the formation must be regarded as one of the most recent.

As no bones of elephants or mastodons have been discovered in the strata, and as the plants and animals for the most part resemble existing species, it is reasonable to believe that the mean temperature of this part of the globe had considerably diminished, and that the country round Cuninghen could no longer support the plants and animals of tropical climates. The organic remains found in these quarries consist of quadrupeds, birds, a vast number of fishes, reptiles, insects, and innumerable plants. For a considerable time, human skeletons were also supposed to be found here in a state of petrification, but were afterwards ascertained by Cuvier to belong to the aquatic salamander—an animal nearly resembling the lizard in form, about four feet in length—a specimen of which is now in the British Museum. Mr Murchison, who lately visited these quarries, brought home the entire skeleton of a fossil fox, and has communicated the result of his observations in a paper of deep interest, and curious deductions. The strata of Cuninghen may be regarded as posterior to many of the beds or accumulations of clay, sand, and gravel, in England, and other countries, that contain the remains of elephants, hippopotami, and other inhabitants of warm regions. These alluvial beds, together with vast tracts of moveable sand, cover no small portion of our present continent, and may be considered as the loose vestments of the globe.\*

The canton of Schaffhausen is one of the smallest, and distinguished as the twelfth in rank of the Swiss confederation. The surface is interspersed with numerous hills and monticles—the highest not exceeding one thousand two hundred feet above the Rhine—and possesses many excellent vineyards, all more or less celebrated for their wine, particularly the red, which in addition to agriculture, is a principal source of industry, and by the quantity annually exported, contributes largely to the public revenue. The population, amounting to thirty five thousand, or nearly so, is distributed into twenty four classes, and the great council into sixty four members, who exercise sovereign authority. The executive department is confided to the lesser council, composed of twenty-four members, chosen from the former. The cantonal flag is black and green, the established contingents four hundred and sixty-six in men, and nine thousand

\* See BAKER'S Geology: the able work to which we have already referred. Also Professor Sedgwick, Murchison, Ebel, and the German papers on the subject.

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three hundred and twenty seven francs in mopey The sources of revenue are silk and cotton manufacture, establishments for the dying and printing of cotton cloths, tanneries, the produce of the soil, wheat, wine, cherry-water—all of which for home or foreign consumption, give an air of commercial activity to the town, and secure a profitable return The duties on merchandize are also a fertile source of public emolument The canton is Protestant, and the clerical department subject to a synod, which meets every spring, under a moderator, the minister of the cathedral, where members from the lesser council are also in attendance The principal churches are those of All Saints, and St John—the latter, one of the largest in Switzerland On the great bell belonging to the first, is this inscription—

*Vivos voco mortuos plango fulgura frango. \**

The town possesses an excellent college, with nine professors, and affords every facility for the acquisition of the elegant, as well as useful branches in science and literature Several periodicals, conducted by able and well informed editors, diffuse a taste for literature and the fine arts, and the society of the place includes many individuals of elegant and enlightened minds Among several others of distinction, the celebrated historian, Muller, was a native of this town, which is still more recently distinguished as the birth place, and field where the learned and patriotic Jetzeller so eminently displayed his virtues and talents Various societies for the encouragement of letters, as well as others for the cultivation of music and objects of taste, give a lively and intellectual character to the evening parties while the winter season brings its fair proportion of balls and concerts

But we turn from the mere artificial scenes of life to that stupendous feature in the natural world—the Falls of Schaffhausen, which have attracted, from time immemorial, and will continue to attract, so many myriads of pilgrims

Even here the hollow thunder of its fall  
And selected vapour mark the wild turmoil

This grand interruption to the navigation of the Rhine, was the origin of the town of Schaffhausen Originally built as an *entrepôt* for the merchandize which it became necessary to disembark at this point, it was afterwards enlarged and embellished under the auspices of the Convent of All Saints For the space of a league above Lauffen—where the cataract actually begins—the river,

\* "The living I summon, the dead I bewail  
And conjure the lightning, the thunder and hail!"

boiling over a rocky channel, forms what may be termed a succession of rapids. Gradually acquiring strength with its speed, and descending—at first in a broad verdant sheet, till, whitening by degrees into foaming impetuosity, it bursts at last in three distinct branches over a precipice, upwards of eighty feet in height, and presents the most sublime spectacle in Switzerland. The best moment for witnessing this phenomenon in all its grandeur, is about sunset, in the month of July. The volume of water is then at the highest, and the usual stillness of the hour, and deepening hue of twilight, conspire in a wonderful degree to heighten the effect. Then the cataract seems to rush from the sky like an avalanche—filling the air with whirlwinds of vapour, and stunning the ear with the thunder of its fall. At that hour the foam is of dazzling whiteness, clouds of drizzling vapour incessantly form and vanish away, the ever boiling vortex of the basin, into which the vast body of water is precipitated, represents a storm in miniature, the trees, and rocks, and precipices, agitated by the continual shock imparted to the atmosphere, and that deep unslackening roar in which the voice of a Stentor seems hushed into the whisper of “a sick girl,” impart sensations which it is difficult to explain, and impossible for any spectator to forget. Should the full moon rise as an accompaniment upon the scene, the whole becomes changed, magnified, and improved, under its magic influence, and every succeeding hour presents the sublime spectacle under some new and more imposing aspect. The moment at which, perhaps, the greatest number of circumstances combine to exhibit the cataract in its unrivalled magnificence, is a little after midnight. Then, Nature seems to have but one voice, to which the hushed and solitary ear of man listens in profound awe, while the flashing of the foam clothes every surrounding object in meteoric lustre.

At sun rise, also, the scene is different, but only in the hues, not in the degree, of its magnificence. Then—

Upon the verge  
From a de to side beneath the glittering snorn  
An Iris s ts, am det le infernal surge  
L ke Hope upon a death bed”

The isolated rocky pillars, by which the river is divided into a triple fall, seem as entirely cut off from all social intercourse with the shores opposite as if the latter were some inaccessible point in the Alps. They are covered with green bushes, and were some time since colonized with rabbits, which certainly have nothing to fear, *ab externo*, provided supplies last, and population does not exceed the territory. These rocks rise to a considerable height, and present,





severally, the appearance of a bold flood gate, through which the river, split into three branches, rushes with inconceivable impetuosity. The contrast also is striking, and, with the shrubs, and plants, and flowers, and the colony already mentioned, they look like arks in the deluge, charged with the preservation of animal and vegetable life—but a deluge whose waters never subside.

Previously to the disruption of its great natural barrier, the whole valley betwixt this and Zellersee must have been a continued lake. Of this the lake of Constance and quarries of Ceninghen afford abundant evidence in the fact, that, by the outlet, their waters had suffered a diminution of several hundred feet in depth. The violent mechanical action of so vast a body of water, for an incalculable lapse of ages, has no doubt greatly diminished the height of the fall; but, from the facts stated, it would appear that the embankment through which the Rhine forced its way, formed originally a transverse ridge as high as the present chateau of Lauffen.

The effect of this fall depends not upon its height—for in that respect it is inferior to many others in Switzerland—but upon the vast body of water, which descending in tremendous broken masses, fully establishes its claim as the most remarkable phenomenon of the kind in Europe. The falls of Terni, though often contrasted with this, are of a different description, and, from the scenery and associations, as well as the volume and picturesque variety which they exhibit, possess attractions essentially distinct from those of Lauffen, where the presiding features are grandeur and sublimity.

In descending from the cliff, which overhangs the fall, the path leads to a scaffolding, on which the visitor, with less risk of suffocation than at Niagara, may pass to a certain extent behind the curtain, and enjoy the sublime satisfaction, as it may be termed, of standing with a slippery plank betwixt him and eternity, and exclaim with Clarence, in his dream,

——“ methinks what pain it were to drown !  
What dreadful noise of waters in mine ears !  
What sights of ugly death with mine eyes !

If the principle of life, a principle that seems to animate all around, be one of the causes of the effect, (as Dr Macculloch\* has well observed,) which a cataract produces on the mind, not a little also is owing to that image of eternity which its never beginning never-ending flow conveys. Nor is that the eternity of the river alone, which flows and will flow on till time is no more, but every moment is a moment of power and effort, and every succeeding effort

sally forth to make the circuit of curiosity, and another return, greatly delighted with the prospect of—dinner. Here, lazily seated upon the bench, in their half minstrel, half marauder uniform, a *possé* of Swabian students keep up a cloud of smoke from pipes, almost as long as the spears of their forefathers. Artists, seated, or standing by the water's edge, are busily occupied in the service of their portfolios, and seem to look upon the donjon tower in the centre of the stream, with its fleet of barges, as a favourite point. Couriers, too, arrive and depart in such "hot haste," as if the balance of Europe sat upon their spurs. Here and there, also, straggling pilgrims, waiting for some boat to waft them to the other extremity of the lake, on their pious errand to Einsiedeln, contrast well with the mere pleasure hunting groups among whom they stand, with their "scaloped hat, and sandal shoon," they look like the beings of another sphere. Among the smokers, the wine of Zurich begins at length to circulate freely, and to loosen those cords of speech, which the solemn pipe had previously held in subjection, and now the volubility is truly extraordinary—some talking—others vociferating a favourite air—

' Die perl aus deinem haare &c

In the mean time, another courier has occasioned a fresh bustle of preparation in the hotel, and is succeeded by the arrival of a *carnage*—not with that rapid reckless haste by which so many think they insure consequence, and command respect—but in so measured and slow a pace, indeed, as to excite apprehensions of some recent accident. The door of the *barouche* was opened, and a lady anxiously handed out, was supported into the house. Hereupon inquiries immediately followed, if a certain physician, then named, was in the house. The demand circulated in a few minutes to the doctor's ear, and in less than five more he was seated at the couch of the stranger. The lady was young, and, as far as perceptible through a thick veil, her features were beautiful, but, after the oriental fashion, her hand alone was visible, and held out with a kind of incoherent expression, that the physician would do his duty. Previously, however, he endeavoured to learn from her female attendant the probable cause and date of the malady, but his questions were either evaded, or answered unsatisfactorily, so that he was left to conjecture, and the adoption of his own resources. The latter were instantly applied—powerful depletion, and other remedial measures, seemed to have done wonders, and the violent excitement under which she laboured had evidently given way to the treatment adopted. About midnight, however, her attendant most imprudently, and, perhaps, through ignorance, put into her hands a letter, the perusal of which seemed to have recalled all the symptoms

of natural beauty, and all with features upon which it is delightful to pause—would far exceed our scanty limits. But, as silence and admiration are not unfrequently associated, the scenes upon which we cannot now dilate will long be cherished among the sweetest in our remembrance, and often fill up the silent picture in the mind's eye.

The canton of Zurich, through which we advance towards the capital, is a country of great extent, beauty, and fertility—densely peopled, highly cultivated, and holding the first rank in the Confederacy. Its boundaries will be better understood by reference to the accompanying map, than by description. On a surface of alternate hill and plain, twelve leagues where longest by ten in breadth, it supports an industrious and thriving population of 185,000 souls. The character and disposition of the people are uniformly described as sincere and ingenuous, studious of improvement, and unsparing of their exertions for the public welfare. They are strongly attached to ancestral customs, patriotic in their feelings and sentiments, and justly proud of their heroic annals and hereditary institutions.

The climate is sufficiently mild for the cultivation of extensive vineyards, and in the perfection of agriculture, Zurich has greatly the advantage over most of the other cantons. Horticulture is a department in which great progress has been made, as well as in the cultivation of kitchen vegetables, and the management of fruit and flower gardens.

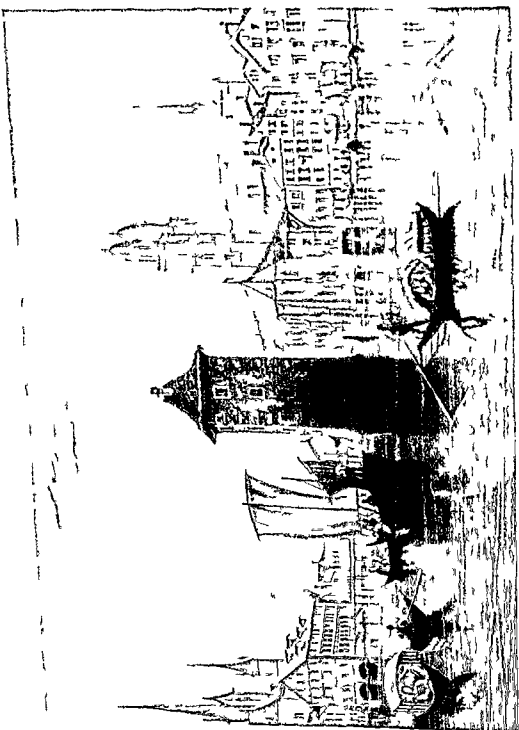
The forests, with which the more elevated districts are covered, abound in stately timber, convertible to all the purposes of domestic economy, and forming a source of public revenue. Abundance of peat is dug from the bogs, and a coal pit regularly worked at Kapfnach. Grain of every description is raised in abundance, and of excellent quality, but the principal source of revenue consists in the manufactures—similar to those already described, and which, previously to the revolution, gave employment to upwards of fifty thousand individuals. The silk loom, as mentioned in a former page, was first introduced here by the proscribed Protestants of Locarno to whom Zurich extended her protecting arm, and received in return an important lesson for the extension of her revenue.

The canton is distributed into eleven prefectures, forming fifty-six tribes. The sovereign authority resides in a grand council, composed of two hundred and twelve members, of whom twenty-six are elected by the capital, five by Winterthour, fifty-one by the various districts—and of the remaining one hundred and thirty, elected by the grand council itself, every fifth is to be chosen from the rural departments. At this assembly a burgomaster acts as president.

The lesser council, formed of twenty five members, is charged with the executive authority, and the thirteen judges of the court of appeal, who decide all capital questions, are elected from the body of the grand council. In every prefecture, or provincial jurisdiction, a magistrate, with the title of *présfet*, is the government representative.

The established religion is that of the Protestant church. The clergy, with the exception of the communes of Dietikon and Rhemau, are governed by a synod, consisting of ten chapters. At this assembly, which meets every autumn, the minister of Zurich presides as moderator. During their deliberations, various members of the government are also present, and all affairs relating to church discipline, are entrusted to a committee selected from the body of the clergy. Both in the capital, and at Winterthour, all the establishments relating to public instruction are ably and judiciously conducted. At Zurich, theology, law, and medicine, are ably taught, and every other branch of science and philology cultivated with industry and success. The country schools are now on an excellent footing, and have greatly increased in number and importance. The physicians and surgeons of the canton, many of them men of profound skill and extensive observation, form themselves into a society, which meets twice a year, and by their professional and friendly intercourse, contribute most materially to the advancement of science, and the promotion of the god like art.

The descent upon Zurich, as the road winds gently towards the river, is particularly fine, and the prominent objects brought successively into view, seem to vary their relative positions as we advance. Of these, the commanding feature is the cathedral, whose twin towers, overlooking the city, are the first to greet the traveller on his approach. Here the Limmat, gushing from the lake in a broad and impetuous stream, is bridged over by a wide and commodious platform, where the buyers and sellers meet in friendly intercourse, and the various merchandize attests the number of purchasers and activity of the market. The scarlet boddice, laced and trimmed with black—the full white sleeves, high dress to the neck, short particoloured petticoat, and black coiffure, with an orange or crimson band across the crown, announce the peasant maids of Zurich, while the huge hempen culottes, coarse homespun doublets, and broad brimmed hats, proclaim their rustic lords. Here the front of the Hôtel de l'Épée bears evidence to the great influx of strangers who every season commence the tour of Switzerland at this point. There stand several English carriages—two just arrived, others on the road—and each fitted up with all the luxury and convenience that can possibly wait upon locomotive lords, and encourage an easy slumber after the fatigue of sight-seeing. There, a party



in their most aggravated form. Disguise was now impossible, and the physician discovered, in the flushed features and wild expression of his patient, a lady who two years previously, he had met at one of the petty courts of Germany—the object of general envy and adulation—the observed of all observers. No moment was to be lost, for every moment now gave strength to the malady and weakened the resources of art. Two of the principal physicians of the place, both celebrated in the profession, lent their able and zealous assistance to certain symptoms, on which it is here unnecessary to dwell, threw out fearful prognostic of the issue. Another day passed, and the malady had gained ground, but as the physician sat by the couch at midnight, endeavouring to soothe those symptoms which no skill could subdue, the door suddenly opened and a tall stranger entered. Casting aside his military cloak, and gazing for a moment on the delirious being whose lips, faithful to one expression only, continued to repeat it with an accent that seemed to reach his heart, he threw himself upon the edge of the couch, and pressing her burning hand to his lip sobbed out in convulsive agony, “My Frederica—my *own* Frederica!” The word acted upon the patient in such a manner as to confirm the belief that there was “magic in a name.” It was evidently a well known voice, and by its soothing influence, superseded, in the course of the day following, all occasion for more scientific treatment.

But as the character of our present work does not admit of a more particular detail of the incidents that followed, we may briefly state, that the physician soon lost sight of his patient—but his patient, on re-crossing the Rhine, became the bride of one whose ancient château overlooks the Danube, and where—defeated in her deep-laid scheme of prevention—the mar plot “Dowager” has found in her *ci-derant dame d’honneur*, a most exemplary daughter.

It is impossible for any one, possessing a taste for the beauties of Nature to enter Zurich or its environs, without feelings of admiration. From whatever point we arrive in this delicious region, the beauty, though varying in degree, is always positive—always striking and picturesque. Built at the northern extremity of the lake—divided by the lumpy waters of the Limmat—encircled by hills and acclivities—here mantled with vines, and there massed with forests, sprinkled with “campagnes,” and enriched with thriving villages, the scene is full of animation, and, on further acquaintance, keeps to the mind the promise it made to the eye.

Did our space suffer us to particularize, Zurich and its environs would certainly afford an apology for digression, for, in addition to the beauty of its existing scenery, there is a peculiar pleasure resulting from associations

connected with its history. As the country of Bullinger, Zwingle,\* Bodmer, Breitinger, Heidegger, Lavater, Gessner, Hirzel, Zimmerman, and a host of others well known to fame—it has peculiar charms for the intellectual traveller, who dwells with delight on the scenes which they have described, and from which they seem to have derived inspiration. For a time, he turns from the battle-fields of freedom, and the feats of chivalry, to meditate on the spot where the peaceful advocates of religion, science, and literature, have left the proud legacy of their names; and where he still seems to hold intercourse with their spirits, and enlist himself as a partner in their studies, sentiments, and pursuits. Once hallowed by the residence of genius, the meanest locality rises into importance—as a puny frame is exalted by the noble spirit that inhabits it. But here, every locality was worthy of the inhabitant; here some of the sweetest scenes of Nature were thrown open as a sanctuary to the sons of genius—scenes which they have well and pathetically described, and by their description consecrated to after times. When the torch of religious persecution spread consternation through the distracted states of Europe—when the sacred name of home was no longer a word that implied security—when the weak, and the innocent, and the helpless, and the timid, escaped as “brands from the burning”—Zurich, with a courage and humanity which have crowned her with glory, threw open her gates for their reception—clothed, comforted, and cherished them with a sister's love—and embraced, as her adopted citizens, those whom the violence of party had stript of all but their integrity.

Here in particular—when the word was, “*Crois que j'ai parlé à l'ange Gabriel, ou je te tue!*” and when, during the troubles of our own country, so many, for “conscience' sake,” were driven to the miserable alternatives of voluntary exile, the sword, or the stake—the nonconformists of England and Scotland found shelter, succour, and citizenship, and in the enlightened and liberal society of Zurich, all that could console them for the loss of their own. This is a fact which can never be lost sight of by their descendants; and among the thousands of our countrymen who now resort to these shores for pleasure, none can forget under what different circumstances their forefathers craved hospitality in the same place. When individuals, flushed with the gifts of fortune—such

\* Zwingle, or Zuinglius, born at Wildhaus, Jan. 1, 1484, was in Switzerland, what Luther was in Germany—the triumphant champion of the Reformation. After a most eventful life, he was killed in his forty seventh year, while serving as chaplain in the army of the Reformers, and his body falling into the hands of the enemy, was ignominiously burnt. For a concise and well written biographical notice of Bullinger, a native of Bremgarten on the Reuss, the reader is referred to “*Mémoires*,” by the Rev J W. MIDDLETON, M.A. Oxon.

to Bullinger, by Lady Jane Grey, the martyr princess—"martyr to the selfish ambition of some, and to the revengeful bigotry of others; whose talents and virtues were just permitted to display themselves, and then withdrawn from a world not worthy of them"—

"Qui ne sait compter aux maux qu'elle a soufferts !"

The hospitals are amply endowed, and superintended by men of distinguished talents and humanity. The poor, and their offspring, are satisfactorily provided for by salutary employment; while the aged, the sick, and destitute, are severally maintained at the charge of the state, and liberally supplied with the necessities of life, the means of health, and the blessings of education and religion. Public granaries are always kept well furnished, from which, in the event of dearth, or a bad harvest, the poor are supplied at a rate so low as to neutralize the pinching effects of scarcity. The great benefits resulting from this provident attention on the part of government, have been duly felt and acknowledged, and imitated by most of the paternal governments in the confederacy, whose maxim, like that of all wise and prudent magistrates, is to provide for war in time of peace, and in plenteous harvests for the winter of scarcity; so that the great scourges of war and famine can never take the people by surprise—

"Metuensque futurum,  
In pace, ut sapiens, aptârit idonea bello."

The Arsenal displays abundant resources in the art of modern warfare, and abundant relics, also, of every thing by which the ancient fathers of the state made themselves terrible to their opponents. Two-handed swords, ponderous battle-axes, iron maces, clubs, halberts, match-locks, plate and chain armour, comprise the weapons with which, and against which, they fought; while trophies and trappings, worn by the highest orders of knighthood only, bear testimony to the quality of the vanquished. The cross-bow of Tell, though confirmed by tradition as the identical bow of the great liberator, is, probably, (with reverence be it spoken!) only a bow of contemporaneous manufacture, yet will we affirm, after careful and much manual examination, that this same cross-bow is as truly the cross-bow of Tell, as that the bones,\* so long venerated

\* Ces reliques furent envoyées par Rodolf, comte de Pfälendorff, grand père d'Adalbert, comte de Hapsbourg, avoué de cette abbaye dans son voyage de Jerusalem. Rodolf les avait obtenues d'un monastere situé dans le territoire de Damas pour des marcs d'or.—*Anecd. Helvet*



in the abbey of St Gall, were the bones of the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—"Ya t il rien de plus respectable qu'un ancien abus?"

The Orphan Asylum, one of the many institutions that do special honour to this patriotic government, derives much additional interest from the circumstance of its having been under the pastoral care of the celebrated Lavater. The Agricultural Society, to whose labours the whole Confederacy, and the neighbouring states, are so much indebted, still continues its active and praiseworthy exertions, and has been the means of improvement in every department of rural economy. Various other societies, all founded on the best principles, are here in a flourishing condition, and severally offer the most pleasing testimony in favour of the people, and the truly noble objects to which they aspire.\* What Voltaire once said of this country, may be now applied to it with still greater justice. *Toutes les commodites de la vie—toutes les douceurs de la societe, et la saine philosophie, sans laquelle la societe n'a point de charmes durables, ont penetree dans les parties de la Suisse ou le climat est le plus doux, et ou regne l'abondance.* Dans ces pays, autrefois si agrestes, on est parvenu en quelques endroits a joindre la politesse d'Athenes a la simplicité de Lacedemone.

At the close of the last century, the canton was successively occupied by the Austrians, Russians, and French. On the last occasion, when a decisive victory placed Zurich, and its territory, under the protection of the latter, the town and suburbs were occupied by the army under Massena, whose strict discipline, and rigorous exercise of his duties as a general, prevented much of the disastrous consequences that might otherwise have ensued, for, on the very morning of the battle, a fête was preparing in honour of the anticipated arrival of Suwaroff, at which the French most unexpectedly assisted, while the army of Kurzakoff was driven, in total discomfiture, beyond the frontier. But

\* The schools &c. which still justify the ancient title of Zurich, "the sapient," may be thus enumerated—The Caroline College for divinity and philosophy—Schools for the classics—for the arts—for the rudiments of the dead languages—for the young citizens in five classes and another established by Canon Usteri. Several Schools, after the system of Pestalozzi—the Military school—Schools of Medicine and Surgery, and Anatomy ably conducted—Helvetic Society—the Saloon of Arts—the Asiatic Society—Society of Physicians—Medical and Surgical Society—the Benevolent Society—the Charitable Society—School of Apprenticeship—Academy of Music—and the Deaf and Dumb Institution the original of that at Paris, founded by the worthy and philanthropic M. Ulrich &c.

The great council consists of two hundred and twelve members, of whom eighty-two are elected in the first instance and one hundred and thirty by the council itself.

The colours of the canton are white and blue in oblique lines. The contingent, in men, as settled in 1818 is three thousand seven hundred and seventy seven thousand one hundred and fifty three francs in money.

although suffering little from plunder, Zurich sustained, on the same day, an irreparable loss in the death of two of her most distinguished citizens—the amiable and ingenious Lavater, and the tribune Irminguen. The former—while under the portico of St Peter's church of which he was pastor, and in the act of mediation between an infuriated French soldier and a friend, whose life was in jeopardy—received the thrust of a bayonet, which proved fatal in the course of a few hours.

Mistaken, as it was supposed, for an officer in the French service from the blue dress he wore, Irminguen was massacred by a party of Russians, in his own garden, and thus, by the death of two excellent men, Zurich offered a melancholy sacrifice, both to the conqueror and the conquered.

Of the environs of Zurich, all travellers unite in terms of admiration, but the finest points from which the picture is to be taken, are unquestionably those on the road to Thalwyl, and from the Albis. It was the scenery around Zurich, and the beauties of its lake, that first inspired the Idylls of the immortal Gessner. The lake, sweeping along its richly cultivated shores, and reflecting in its waters almost innumerable villas and hamlets, with their sacred spires, presents a scene of proverbial attractions, and such as no other part, even of Switzerland, can present\*. Never, says Zimmerman, can I recall the sublime and magnificent scenes which I have here enjoyed in the company of my friend Lavater, without the most sensible emotion. Here, during the fine season, we have ascended the terrace of the house—the house in which he was born and educated—and whichever way we turned our eyes, walking or sitting, felt with Brydone, that, in proportion as we are raised above the habitations of men, all low and grovelling sentiments are left behind, and that the soul, on approaching the ethereal regions, shakes off its earthly affections, and contracts something of their invariable purity. In one view we include the city of Zurich—the luxuriant country in which it is enbosomed—the lucid expanse of its lake—the distant mountains lifting their glacier summits to heaven, and as we gazed on the scene, felt a delicious tranquillity stealing upon our hearts, and harmonizing every feeling. At Richterschwyl, a village situated on the margin of the lake, where two projecting points of land form a natural bay of

\* According to late observation the height of this lake above the sea is one thousand three hundred feet—its length nearly ten leagues by one and a quarter where broadest. Its greatest depth according to soundings made at Au, is six hundred feet. The Limth and Au are the only considerable rivers that fall into it, and the Limmat the only outlet. During the heat of summer and the sudden melting of the snow it occasionally rises five or six feet, and in other respects exhibits the same phenomena as the lakes of Geneva and Constance. If the first of these be the most sublime in Switzerland that of Zurich is certainly the most beautiful.

nearly half a league, is a scene still more enchanting than that commanded by the house of Lavater. On the opposite shore, variegated with pleasant hills, enriched with vineyards, corn fields, groves, meadows, and orchards, and animated with hamlets, villas, and cottages, nature and art have conspired to form a picture of inimitable beauty. Stretching from east to south, and rising as it recedes, a wide and magnificent amphitheatre—such as few artists have had the boldness to attempt, save in detached portions—opens upon the stranger like the prospect of a new Eden. The view towards the higher part of the lake, presents a succession of small promontories, insulated points, like floating islands, the town of Rapperschwyl, and its renowned bridge. Beyond these, the valley extends in the form of a crescent, while on the fore-ground, a peak of land gradually swells into a beautiful series of hills. Behind these is a range of mountains, massy with verdant forests, interspersed with villages, and detached dwellings. Still further, the majestic Alps, towering over one another, shut in the scene, and exhibit in their shattered precipices the alternate hues of silver and opal. The village of Richterschwyl itself is enbowered in orchards, and fertile pastures, while shadowy pine forests overhang it from above. Pleasant serpentine walks, shaded by trees, and scented by flowering shrubs, wind along the margin of the lake—some from village to village—and others crossing the summits of the hills. Struck with the sublime and beautiful scenery which every where surrounds him, the traveller often pauses to indulge the pleasure of silent contemplation, and to exclaim—These are thy works, Almighty Father!—these the tokens of thy bounty to fallen man!

What adds greatly to the enjoyment of the scene, is, that every foot of ground is in crop, or under cultivation—every hand usefully and profitably employed. Through the gardens of the house, and close beneath the chamber of Dr Hotze—the medical friend to whom Zimmerman so feelingly alludes—runs a pure and limpid stream, on the opposite side of which, at an agreeable distance, is the high road where numerous bands of pilgrims are every day passing towards the shrine of Einsiedeln. During the silence of night, if you approach the chamber windows, or walk through the gardens of this enchanting retreat, you hear, during the awful sleep of nature, the chiming of the village clocks—the shrill proclamation of the watchmen—the warblings of some solitary flute, interrupted now and then by the baying of the faithful house-dog on the opposite shores. Then, should the moon rise with unclouded beam from the eastern summits, the whole scene undergoes an almost magical transmutation—the silvery of the waters surface gradually lengthens into a long streak—the rippling of oars is heard—boats approach in darkness—but as they enter the

silver line, the dip of the oar, and dash of the prow, are suddenly brought to light, till another stroke from the rowers carries them past the bright line of demarcation, and the sound fades away upon the ear And now—

The scene invites—launch forth upon the tide  
While night surrounds thee in her starry noon;  
But launch alone, and leave thy bark to glide  
As lists the wave, along the bright lagoon;  
The moon is up—and Nature's voice in power  
Inspires emotions sacred to the hour

Among many delightful excursions made during a summer's residence in a little villa opposite the gardens at the junction of the Limmat and Sihl, there are few to which we revert with more pleasure than to those made to the castle of Manneck Here, according to tradition, Roger Manès, the "generous and brave," entertained the sons of chivalry and song, and by his hearty hospitality opened a fresh Hippocrène to the troubadours of the Rhine The view from this point is charming, a small solitary and romantic spot, watered by a fountain, seems as if consecrated to the memory of the gallant knight, and, although but a wreck, enough of the castle yet remains to keep alive a feeling of romance in its favour. Nature has not grown old, the scene on which they so often dwelt with poetic fervour, seems ever in its prime, and ever attracting new admiration But when we ask, where is the good Roger Manès, and where his guests? an echo answers, "Where?" And so it is with nearly all the proud and lordly castles which once, to the number of twenty-one, encircled the lake of Zurich Their fate illustrates the axiom, that at every step towards freedom, a feudal tower falls to the ground

But as our limits do not permit our entering upon the numerous and highly interesting epochs in which the town and canton of Zurich have shone so conspicuous, we must refer our readers to works more purely historical, and now proceed to select a few of the more prominent features on the AAR

## AARGAU, BÂLE, AND SOLEURE.

Tantôt sur un gazon tantôt sous un vieux chêne  
Au doux chant des oiseaux au bruit d'une fontaine  
Il cherche le repos—s'assied—rêve—et s'endort.—ANDRIEUX

THE canton of Aargau, raised to the condition of an independent state in 1798, and holding the fifteenth rank in the Confederation, is one of the largest and

most productive territories in Switzerland. The inhabitants, about one hundred and fifty thousand, are divided into two hundred and seventy-six communes, twelve of which are small towns, and consist of Protestants and Catholics, of whom the former have a majority of about ten thousand, and nearly one thousand eight hundred Jews, who inhabit the villages of Endigen and Lengnau. The people are all of German extraction, laborious in their habits, but much swayed by ancient prejudices, and tinctured with superstition. The natural fertility of the soil, and mildness of climate, are highly favourable to the pursuits of agriculture, by which they are enabled to send considerable quantities of wheat to market. The system of irrigation here adopted, is uncommonly successful. The vine is extensively cultivated, and affords a wine of superior quality—particularly in the neighbourhoods of Baden and Schintznach. Fruit and vegetables are also abundant, cheap, and in great variety. The manufacture of silk and cotton, working of the iron mines, with the navigation and fishing on the Aar and Rhine, are the principal sources of employment for those of the population who are not engaged in the farms. At Aarau, Zofingen, Lenzbourg, and the adjoining valleys, extensive factories have been established, at which numerous hands find constant employment. In the interior, commercial intercourse is greatly facilitated by excellent roads, and fairs regularly held at stated times and places, that at Zurzach, is one of the most commercial and best attended in Switzerland.

Aarau, the capital, is divided into eleven districts, and forty-eight circles. No distinctive privileges are recognized. The chief council, vested with sovereign power, and consisting of Protestants and Catholics, in equal proportion, is composed chiefly of the representatives elected by the people. Only a third of the members are elected by the council itself, which has the privilege of choosing from its own number a president, with the title of burgomaster. The lesser council, with executive power, and the court of appeal, are each composed of thirteen members. Every district is under the magisterial authority of a prefect, appointed by government, and every circle, under that of a justice of the peace. The public revenues—upwards of a million and a half of francs, are nearly exhausted by the annual expenditure, but promise to become much more considerable.\*

The reformed clergy, under the direction of an ecclesiastical court, are divided into two deaneries, and forty-eight curacies. The Catholic clergy, hitherto

\* The contingents, as fixed for this canton, in the event of war, are two thousand four hundred and ten men; and fifty two thousand two hundred and twelve francs, of the country. The colours of the canton are bright blue and black.

comprised within the diocese of Constance and Bile, count three chapters of canons, the rich abbeys of Muri and Wettingen, and various other convents. The principal school of the canton is admirably adapted for public instruction. Another, on the same plan, for girls, is established at Olsberg, and the common parish schools are every where conducted on a good principle. The Society for the diffusion of Useful Knowledge among the people, has contributed a good deal to that desirable object. The town and canton contain various societies for instruction and amusement, among which may be mentioned, the Theological, the Medical, the Musical, &c.

The Baths of Baden and Schutznach, both much frequented during the season, are sources of considerable profit to the canton. Those of Baden are of very ancient celebrity, the most frequented in Switzerland, and were known and appreciated by the Romans as the Helvetian *thermæ*, or *Aquæ Verbigenæ*. The springs are very numerous, and are observed bubbling up through the bed of the river. The water is sulphureous, and maintains a temperature of 37 to 38° of Reaumur. It is conjectured, with much probability, that this high temperature, and the mineral qualities with which it is charged, are owing to the formation of gypsum and marl from the Legenberg, which is covered with beds of limestone.

The principal baths, fitted for the reception of the higher class of visitors, are on the left bank of the river, those for the public, on the opposite side. The season begins in June, and continues till the end of September, during which period the town is refreshed by a constant influx of visitors from the adjoining cantons, and Swabian side of the Rhine. One of the hotels, the *Stadthof*, contains upwards of forty baths, with every other accommodation in proportion. The other hotels have each their peculiar attractions, suited to the taste and pecuniary means of the guests, but all comfortable, and, according to our own experience, moderate in their charges. Each contains a certain number of private baths for the use of its inmates.

These thermal waters are found to be of great use in rheumatic affections, and enjoy the accumulated testimony of ages in their favour. Many cases of long standing and great severity, are every season advancing fresh evidence in their favour, and attracting fresh votaries to this graceful and picturesque locality. At the commencement of the fifteenth century, during the sittings of the great council of Constance, where upwards of one hundred thousand strangers were assembled, these baths were much frequented and are described in a letter by Poggio, a distinguished writer of the time and holding a conspicuous station at the council.

The town of Baden is of great local and historical interest. It was strongly fortified by the Romans, and, during the middle ages, its ancient castle became celebrated as the Rock of Baden. Here, the emperor Albert denounced vengeance against the confederates who had shaken off his yoke, and here were concerted the battles of Morgarten and Sempach. In 1415, when Duke Frederick of Austria was put under ban of the empire, and a crusade preached against him, the Swiss took advantage of this circumstance and reduced this lair of the "wounded lion" to ashes. About the middle of the seventeenth century, the municipal government reconstructed the fortifications at great expense, but which, after a short siege in 1712, were again demolished by the troops of Zurich and Berne. Two years later a congress of European powers met here, and continued its sittings from the 26th of May, till the 7th of September, when the long war of the succession in Spain terminated in a peace between Austria and France, which was proclaimed from the town house, in presence of Prince Eugene and Marshal Villars. Numerous medals and other antiquities, illustrative of this as a Roman station, have been found from time to time in the town and neighbourhood—particularly a quantity of dice, on which, no doubt, the sentinels of the "Castellum Thermarum" had risked many a day's pay. During the fine season, the place is enlivened by a *corps dramatique*, balls, concerts, and excursions in the neighbourhood, afford constant amusement to the visitors, so that the Swiss Baden may vie, in many respects, with its attractive rival, the Baden of the Grand Duchy.

The Baths of Schintznach, on the Aar, have long enjoyed a celebrity little inferior to the preceding. They are also thermal springs, but from 10° to 12° lower in temperature than those named. The water is perfectly limpid at its source, but soon deposits a thick sediment on being allowed to stand exposed to the atmosphere. Every thing that contributes to the comfort and convenience of invalids is here managed with the greatest attention: the apartments are airy, and kept with great neatness, the table served with every luxury, and the surrounding country particularly suited for exercise. Long shady avenues when the weather is fine, and commodious porticoes, or open galleries when less inviting, offer abundant resources to the invalid, while the neighbouring country presents innumerable attractions for the cavalier and pedestrian—such as the ruins of Hapsburg, Brugg, Königs Eden, Windisch Baden, Wildeck, Lenzburg, and Aarau.

"How often," says Zimmerman, "has this magnificent valley, overlooked by the ruins of Hapsburg, afforded me pure and unspeakable delight!" Here the hills crowned with variegated woods, and undulating with verdure, were

the impetuous Aar, rolling his torrent from the Alps—now a vast basin in the valley—then rushing precipitately over contracting rocks, and pouring his fertilizing flood through the expanded plain. On the opposite side, the Reuss, and, lower down, the Limmat, bring each their tributary waves to swell the magnificent torrent of the Aar. In the centre of this verdant scene rises the imperial sepulchre of Albert I., where many princes of the house of Austria with their retinue of nobles—a splendid death-roll—were sent to slumber by the victorious Swiss in their struggles for independence. In the distance, we discover the valley where the once flourishing Vindonissa\* cherished her Roman colonies, and her Roman pomp and luxury; and where the traveller may now indulge in pathetic meditation on the perishable nature of man, and the dream-like duration of his proudest works. Beyond this magnificent country, and crowning the mountain crests, mouldering fortresses and castles—all famous in their day—recall innumerable incidents in history. Each has its dark domestic record, its heroic deeds, its fates, and tournaments, and sieges, to detain the stranger, and excite his imagination. Farther still, the sublime summits of the Alps take possession of the scene, and strike the eye with the boldest images of eternity.

Brugg is illustrious as the birth-place of Zimmermann, and the field of his early practice. Here, while expatiating in glowing terms upon the magnificent panorama by which he was surrounded, "still," says he, "my eyes were instinctively cast down into the deep valley, and continually wandering to the little village where I first drew breath." It has often shared in the triumphs and suffered in the misfortunes of war. In the middle of the fifteenth century, when Falkenstein, landgrave of Siegau, had failed in his plot of burning the town of Aarau, he rode with some noblemen of his party through the town of Brugg, giving out among the inhabitants that they came from the camp before Zurich, and were on their way to fetch the bishop of Bâle, for the

\* The present Windisch, the town of Brugg, and two other villages, now occupy part of the vast area of this once magnificent city, which, in extent, population, religious architecture, and luxurious embellishments, must have exceeded all the other Roman settlements in Helvetia. Even Aventicum, though in the day of its prosperity ten times the size of the present Avenche—and the imperial Augusta Tauracorum—the present Augst—judging from existing documents, must have been very secondary to Vindonissa in all that evinced the power and civilizing influence of a Roman colony. The vestiges of the amphitheatre, and other public buildings, prisons, or barracks, are still perceptible. Its vast fortifications extended from the castle of Baden to the borders of the Rhine, and were garrisoned by the eleventh and twenty-first legions. Statues of all the principal Roman divinities, in gold and silver, have been found at various periods, with innumerable other relics of the Cæsars, of whom Vespasian contributed largely to the embellishment of the city. Many discoveries might yet be made in the same place, but the modern structures are a great impediment to the antiquary, who values an old medal more than a new mansion.



ratification of peace Accordingly, on the second night following, he again knocked at the gate of Brugg, saying, "We bring peace—here is the bishop—open your gates!"—shewing, at the same time, two servants in the bishop's livery Deceived by this stratagem, the guard withdrew the bolts, opened the gate, and in rushed Falkenstein with four hundred horsemen The town was given up to plunder, the chief magistrate, the senators, and principal citizens, were imprisoned, and condemned to lose their heads But in the mean time, the alarm had spread—the peasants had armed—and Falkenstein finding it necessary to retreat, set fire to the town, and dragged his prisoners to an oak forest hard by, to undergo their sentence On reflection, however, it was deemed safer to transmute their sentence to seclusion in the rock-built fortress of Lauffenburg, which overlooks the Rhine, and there they were shut up But one of the prisoners, Burgi Kuffer, having effected his descent from the tower by means of the bed-clothes, plunged into the river, swam ashore, and flying to Brugg, discovered the mystery of their imprisonment—for their fellow-citizens knew not that they were alive At this intelligence, the women of Brugg, nobly contributing all that they possessed of pecuniary value, clubbed the amount, and, at a heavy ransom, succeeded at last in rescuing their husbands and lovers from the dungeon of Lauffenburg

To Kungsfelden, as the sepulchre of Albert, we have already alluded, but the tragic circumstances which gave rise to it as a religious foundation may justify a more particular notice in this place On the death of Gessler, when freedom had been achieved for their country by the patriot Tell, and the heroes of Gruthi, the Emperor felt that, unless re-established by some bold stroke, his voice and supremacy were for ever lost in Switzerland Having so long tasted the sweets of authority, he was resolved not to resign it at the summons of a band of peasants, but collecting a powerful army, and attended by a brilliant retinue of knights and nobles of his court, marched into the territory of Aargau Amongst the number of his immediate attendants, was his nephew and ward—John, duke of Savoy—from whom, to check ambition or to secure dependence, he had long persisted in withholding his paternal inheritance This wrong, though deeply felt, was scrupulously concealed and silently ripened into deadly rancour On the first of May, the emperor resumed his march from Brugg, and the fatal opportunity presenting itself as they crossed the Reuss, near Windisch, the duke by a deadly thrust, plunged his spear into the neck of his royal kinsman, exclaiming—"Such are the wages of injustice!" The blow was followed by others from those in league with him Rudolf, knight of Balm, transfixed the body with his lance, while

Walter of Eschenbach gave the finishing stroke by cleaving his skull. The others of the imperial retinue, struck motionless, and horrified at the spectacle, could neither apprehend nor punish the assassins. Recovering at length their presence of mind—but consulting only their personal safety—they fled precipitately from the scene, and left the murdered sovereign to expire in the arms of a poor woman who happened to be on the spot.

"A peasant girl that royal head upon her bosom laid,  
And shinking not for woman's dread, the face of death surveyed.  
Alone she sat—from hill and wood red sank the mournful sun,  
Fast gushed the fount of noble blood—treason its worst had done!  
With her long hair she vainly pressed the wounds, to stanch their tide—  
Unknown, on that meek humble breast, imperial ALBERT died!"

Such was the universal horror with which even the minds of his friends were struck at the knowledge of this atrocious crime, that the parricide, and his associates, were suffered to wander about and perish without assistance, as if the curse of every human being followed their steps. The gates of Zurich were shut against them; and even the Waldstetten, against whom the emperor had denounced such heavy vengeance, magnanimously shrank from harbouring his assassins.†

In the mean time, in conjunction with his widow, the empress Elizabeth, Leopold, duke of Austria, and Agnes, queen of Hungary—children of Albert, offered fearful sacrifices to his manes. In gratifying a blind, insatiable spirit of revenge, they slew the innocent along with the guilty, and, converting the slightest suspicion to a sentence of death, rioted in blood. Agnes, as if actuated by the very demon of revenge, caused numerous castles to be burnt to the ground; and, on one occasion, while the blood of sixty-three knights was flowing at her feet, exclaimed, in ecstacy, "Now am I bathing in may-dew!"

Prostrate at the feet of this royal hyena, the lady of Rudolf, Baron Von der Wart, implored the life of her husband; but her tears and shrieks of despair—his own protestations of innocence, and absence of all proof, availed her nothing. Rudolf was broken on the wheel, and exposed, while yet alive, to be devoured by vultures, and birds of prey. But even when left to expire on the rack, and writhing under the pangs of a lingering death, words of undying affection continued to drop from his lips; and were caught by his heart-broken consort, as she knelt and prayed in agony at the foot of the scaffold till the last drops of existence were wrung from his tortured heart.

\* See the beautiful poem by Mrs. Hemans.

† The parricide, nevertheless, obtained absolution afterwards from the Pope, and entered on a strictly course of mortification in some monastery.

in the panorama. It may be unnecessary to add that the present ruin—the cradle of the Austrian family—dates from the remote epoch of 1020

Kaiserstuhl, the ancient Forum Tiberis, and another of the numerous fine points of view in this canton, is built at the foot of the mountain—its walls washed by the Rhine—and, till 1817, communicated with the opposite bank by a bridge, which was swept down by the inundations of that year. It is surrounded by a country of corn and wine, and in point of situation is superb

Lauffenburg is chiefly remarkable for the cataract of that name, where the boats descending the Rhine are lowered by means of ropes, and thus continue their course through the rapids with safety. Here, in December 1795, the present Duchess d'Angoulême rested several hours, after the exchange of state prisoners, which placed her—"the orphan daughter of a martyred line"—under the protection of Austria. It is the scene of various adventures and catastrophes. In this town, as above stated, the magistrates of Brugg were imprisoned by Falkenstein, till the escape of Kuffer from one of its windows led to their release

Rheinfelden, once so strong in its natural position and fortifications, was dismantled by the French in 1714, and, during the previous wars, had suffered many disasters. But the stratagem by which it was taken possession of by Grunenberg, in 1448, is probably less known. This nobleman—to whom Austria, as an indemnification for the destruction of his castle, had given the town of Rheinfelden without consulting the good will of the inhabitants—entered into compact with Rechberg and Falkenstein, (the incendiary of Aarau, and author of the midnight massacre at Brugg,) to gain the place by stratagem. Accordingly, on a Sunday morning of November the same year, a barge of considerable burden, which had descended the Rhine laden with wood, arrived during divine service, and dropt anchor in front of the town. On board of this vessel were several men, seemingly peasants, dressed in long grey frocks, who gave out that they were on their return from a pilgrimage to Einsiedeln, and only intended to halt a few hours in the town for refreshment. Thus admitted, under the sacred character of devotees, they passed the gates, but no sooner was this step accomplished, than they threw off their frocks, and appeared in full armour. The panic occasioned by such momentary transformation paralysed resistance. They rushed upon the guard house, struck down or disarmed the sentinels, despatched the tax gatherers, and spread consternation through the street. At the same moment one hundred and twenty of their associates sprang from beneath the timber with which the barge was seemingly laden, and rushed through the gate to support their comrades. The unarmed and terrified citizens

fled, or fell under the merciless swords of the assassins. The altars were crowded with despairing votaries—the shrieks of women—the screams of children—the peals of the tocsin—and the shouts and execrations of the robbers, formed an awful contrast with the matin service in which the peaceable inhabitants had just been engaged. Staggered by the sudden irruption of armed brigands, *the men of the town made no attempts to arrest their progress* but, as their brothers fell around them, their nerves were restrung—blood called for blood—and arming themselves with whatever weapons fell in their way, they rushed to the repulse. But now the conflict was necessarily brief for Grunenberg, who had lain in ambush on the landside, suddenly stormed the gate, and, throwing six hundred well armed men into the place, overpowered all resistance, and delivered up the town to indiscriminate carnage and plunder. The particulars attending this massacre of a defenceless population were of the most revolting description. Driven from their dwellings, and plundered of every thing valuable, the families who escaped were received with great humanity at Basle, and lodged in the public hospital and inns. Here the cold blooded outrage kindled such a spirit of indignation in favour of the Rheinfelders, that a strong force was instantly mustered, and marched off to make reprisals, which they speedily effected. At Hesinghen they overtook, and completely routed Rechberg and Falkenstein—recovered a portion of the booty, and burnt to the ground several castles which had served as the strongholds of these titled robbers. By the treaty of peace which ensued, Rheinfelden was restored to Austria, and the nobles, who had now fortified themselves in it, compelled to quit the town—a summons, however, which they contrived to evade till every thing valuable had been removed—the doors, windows, and stores demolished—and nothing left for their successors but the bare walls.

Continuing our route towards Basle, the frontier line is flanked by the two small villages of Augst, covering the right and left banks of the Ergolz, and attracting the antiquary by the history of their splendid origin. Here stood the capital of the Rauraci—the Augusta Rauracorum of Latin authors—one of the most flourishing Roman settlements on this side the Alps, and only second, probably, to that of Vindonissa. Its situation, at the conflux of the Rhine and Ergolz, was peculiarly favourable to mercantile pursuits, and for the maintenance of that authority to which the neighbouring country had yielded such reluctant obedience. Time and barbarism, however, have unfortunately left few monuments as existing testimony of the luxury to which it had attained, but enough remains to justify the received opinion of its early importance in the rank of cities. The ruins of the ancient amphitheatre were many years ago converted

into beautiful walks, under the taste and direction of M. Brenner, who also succeeded in forming a very interesting and extensive cabinet of Roman antiquities found on the spot. The environs are fertile and picturesque.

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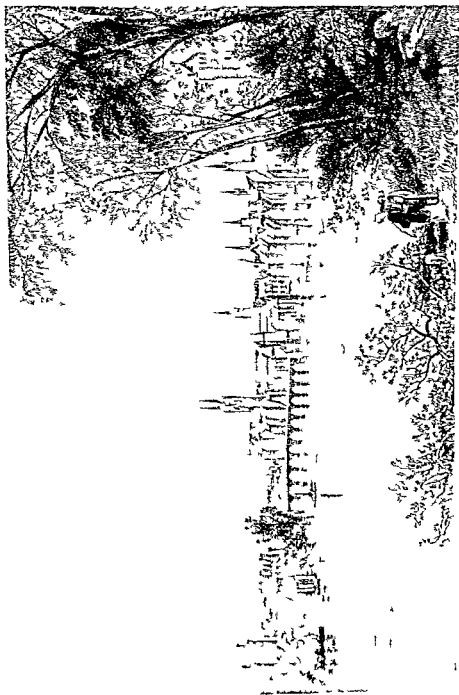
## CITY AND CANTON OF BASLE

THE canton of Basle holds the eleventh station in the Helvetic Confederacy, with a territory of ten leagues long by eight broad. The surface of the country is hilly, intersected by rich valleys, and traversed from south-east to north-west by the Jura. At the restoration of peace, the Congress of Vienna granted considerable accessions to this canton from the ancient bishopric of Basle. The population at the present time is estimated at about fifty thousand, including a proportion of about five thousand Catholics. The form of government is very similar to that of the canton which we have just described\*. It recognizes no hereditary titles or privileges, but maintains a perfect equality in all that relates to political freedom and the administration of the laws. All ecclesiastical affairs are managed by a synod with a moderator at their head, who has the title of Antistes, and in all respects similar—the office of high-commissioner excepted—to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

The city of Basle, in point of extent and accommodation, might serve as a metropolis for the whole confederacy. But the modern population is much inferior to its ancient census, and many noble edifices, the residence of former affluence, are now either deserted, or have been converted to warehouses and other purposes very different from their original destination. The town itself awakens many pleasing associations in the traveller's mind. As the early asylum of letters, and the sanctuary of religious toleration, it enjoys many high testimonials, and although so much shrunk from its original proportions, has still in its moral and political institutions enough to command respect, and interest every philanthropic inquirer. Its political constitution has undergone various changes and modifications, according to the influence of passing events.

At that period of revolutionary violence which shook and unsettled—where it did not entirely dissolve—so many of the oldest governments in Europe,

\* The contingent in men is 304 in money 20 450 francs. The colours of the canton black and white. The contingent however are all subject to annual revision and modified according to circumstances.





even to an indifferent face, an interest which a more elaborate display would entirely frustrate. It seems, as far as it extends at least, an apt illustration of the "*simplex munditiis*." The ladies, nevertheless, show a decided preference for bright colours, and indulge the innocent partiality whenever it is not expressly forbidden by the sumptuary law. The character of the citizens in general is that of frank hospitality and a refined taste.

The square of the cathedral, like its venerable pile,\* is a central point of attraction, and generally the first to which strangers are conducted. The terrace, planted with luxuriant lime and chestnut trees, commands a prospect which, although less Alpine than those where we have lately paused, is peculiarly rich in every embellishment which a long course of prosperity seldom fails to throw over the face of a country—more particularly where it possesses features like those of Basle, and the grand duchy of Baden. But the imposing view which is here thrown open by the expanded Rhine—rolling at a depth of two hundred feet below the terrace, and presenting a breadth of one thousand three hundred feet—excludes more distant objects, and, at first sight at least, absorbs the whole attention. Numerous boats, and rafts with their little isolated colonies, are seen floating with, or pulling against, the stream, others anchored, loading or discharging in the basin, while, along the banks, Swiss and Swabian, numerous villas, gardens, and summer houses, give life to the picture, and pleasing evidence of the easy circumstances and even opulence by which the citizens of Basle are thus enabled to indulge their love of nature and correct taste.

Next to this, the best view is from the Swabian side of the river, or from the centre of the bridge—the latter point is peculiarly fine by moonlight, and presents at all times a favourable view of the long margin of grotesque, massy buildings—one of which is the principal inn—whose bulwarks and balconies spring, seemingly, from the bed of the river, and, in some places, look as if they were ready to plunge, with their evening groups, into the channel beneath. In the fine season the fruit and flower gardens are much frequented by evening parties, while others, accompanied with bands of music, spend the twilight on the water, chanting at intervals their native strains of *heroism and romance*.

The University of Basle, the only institution of that extent in Switzerland, enjoys a reputation of long standing in the republic of letters. Great exertions are now in progress to confer upon it a still higher name, by introducing into

\* Beyond the circumstance of its containing the tomb of ERASMUS the cathedral though very ancient has little of paramount interest. In the great hall attached to it the *Oecumenical Council* was held in the fifteenth century. The tombs of Colampadius and Anne of Hapsburg are also among its sepulchral antiquities.



must look for whatever is of most interest in the history of Basle. Here the pacific votary of science has often found shelter and encouragement. The names of Bernouilli, Euler, Mecheln, Iselin, Haas, Holbein, and many others, have entailed a classic celebrity upon the city which no political change can impair. Erasmus, though a native of Holland, resided many years in Basle. Wherever literature and science have been encouraged, they seem to leave a halo upon the spot which nothing can remove;—like the site of some venerable temple, which—independent of passing events, and so long as a stone of that temple remains—is still sacred ground.

In walking through the streets of Basle\* the number of fountains is a new and pleasing feature to a stranger; and the more so, as it combines utility with elegance, and harmonizes well with our ideas of social refinement and its consequences—the embellishments of art. But the town itself, though possessing many edifices of an imposing exterior, borders too closely upon the territories of France and Germany to show much that is peculiarly Swiss in aspect or character. In its triple claim, as a sharer in some of the peculiarities of each, it exhibits, in manners as in architecture, the ease and gaiety of France with the stately, and often sombre, Gothic of Swabia; and presenting the features of each in succession, the country to which it belongs seems almost a matter of conjecture. It looks like a stranger lately arrived in a new colony, who, although he may have adopted the dress and manners of those among whom he has come to reside, wears still too much of his old costume to pass for a native, and too little to be received as an entire stranger.

Although not equally happy in other points of taste, the coiffure of the fair portion of the citizens is simple, neat, and becoming. It consists of a bow of broad black ribbon, fixed so as to project a little from the crown of the head, and allow the vandyked extremities to fall half-way down the forehead. The very simplicity of this renders it effective, and communicates,

\* The city is divided into two portions, great and little, which communicate by the bridge. On the stone tower over the archway, facing the right bank of the Rhine, the traveller may observe a figure with its tongue thrust ludicrously out of its mouth, and if he inquires of the next person he meets the meaning of such indecorous expression, the answer is—that “the statue never addresses itself in this manner to any but those who come from *Little Basle*,” and if he has time, he may hear the following reason—In former times, Great and Little Basle were not always on terms of the most friendly understanding. It happened, therefore, that the latter, unable to cope with its more powerful rival in open warfare, laid a secret scheme, by which Great Basle was to be entered by stratagem, and cleverly surprised in the dead of night! But this scheme being detected and frustrated in its intentions, the inhabitants of Great Basle, in whimsical commemoration of the event, caused a figure to be placed above the archway, looking over to Little Basle, with the tongue jolling out as described, in derision of so contemptible an enemy. The inhabitants of Little Basle, it is said, would gladly have this insolent tongue removed; but the citizens of Great Basle still enjoy the jest, and insist upon keeping the facetious organ in its place.

the course of lectures those subjects which the philosophy and science of more modern times have rendered indispensable to a liberal education. In furtherance of these patriotic views, professors, of acknowledged talents and experience, have begun their labours, and, from the progress already made, we may freely venture to predict will speedily establish the claim of Basle as a favourite seat of the muses. The library of the University, including that of Erasmus, is estimated at thirty thousand volumes, besides various MSS relating to the council of Basle—the last which supported its own free prerogative against transalpine despotism. With these it unites a Museum, well stored with antiquities and curiosities, and among the latter several paintings by Holbein.

In the Arsenal much warlike harness is shown—particularly that of Charles the Bold—in whom it is observed that courage was a fatal vice, and cowardice would have been a virtue.

The suburbs and soil around Basle are particularly rich and productive, and it would be difficult to point out a situation so well adapted for commercial industry. The town is healthy, and, with the aid of its fountains and descent towards the river, is kept remarkably clean and wholesome. During the ravages of the black death, which swept off such multitudes, even from the pure atmosphere of Switzerland, it suffered to a fearful amount. The preceding winter having been unprecedentedly mild, the trees, grass, and fruits, were covered with venomous worms and caterpillars, and the fields overrun with mice. On the last visitation the mortality continued upwards of twelve months, when it was checked by the return of a severe winter.

In 1610, a similar pestilence, introduced, as it was supposed, by merchandize from the Levant, carried off four thousand citizens of Basle, and, penetrating through the adjoining cantons, committed fearful ravages in the towns and villages.\*

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Following up their advantage, the Swiss carried the first entrenchments, and, strewing their path with victims, pressed so hard upon the enemy's advance guard, that they rushed precipitately into the river Birs,\* in the hope of forming into line on the opposite bank, and annihilating their pursuers. But the warm reception had both weakened their strength, and damped their courage, while it gave fresh edge to that of the Swiss.

The citizens of Basle, anxiously watching every manœuvre from their battlements, and wound up to enthusiastic ardour at the unparalleled daring of the handful of men who thus slew and repulsed thousands, rushed to their assistance—but with the hope of securing their safe retreat into the city, not of continuing a combat which the vast disparity of numbers rendered so apparently hopeless for the Swiss. But such a proposal was felt as an indignity, and the gallant band plunging into the river, swam stoutly across, under a heavy fire from the artillery, then scaling the steep banks, and dashing through the line, attacked the enemy in his last and strongest position.

Every brigade was now in motion, and threatened to crush the confederates as they approached. The combat became general. The Alsatian horse made several desperate efforts to break through the Swiss phalanx, but their serried spears presented an impregnable hedge in front, while their two-handed swords, iron clubs and ponderous maces, did such deadly execution in flank,

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that the steel clad mass was driven back upon its reserve in shame and discomfiture. The rattling of the Swiss blades upon the French armour resembled the welding hammers of some vast forge in fierce and incessant operation, while the blood that gushed through their mail of proof added fearful testimony to the blows. In vain the French invoked their patron of chivalry—the English the spirit of their heroic ancestors—the Swabian his saints—the Austrian his revenge—and threw themselves in dense columns upon the Swiss. Still the torrent flowed on, and as it flowed, bore down all before it. Then dividing into three several branches, carried destruction through the centre, and swept off the resisting flanks to right and left.

The conflict had already continued from day-break till noon, but still the victory was contested with unabated fury. The rudely formed cannon of the time, blazed and thundered on the right. The heavy mailed cavalry, encumbered by their own strength, charged, plunged, and recoiled, before the shock of the Swiss spears. The infantry, armed with bows and battle-axes, and spears, and arquebusses, committed fearful havoc among the wavering columns. As their heavy masses still advanced, and were still mown down, the barrier between the combatants formed a mound of the dead and dying, over whose yet warm bodies they grappled with a ferocity which equally denied and scorned the proffer of quarter. The flags of Berne, Basle, and Soleure, were still waved in defiance, and borne with fearful slaughter through the enemy's ranks, while the standards of France and Austria were alternately struck down, and raised by fresh bearers.

Two Swiss linsmen having been drawn into an isolated position, where they were exposed at once to eight of the enemy, one of them sank under the accumulated blows of the Armagnacs, who were already in the act of wantonly mutilating the body, when the other, rushing forward, levelled the ruffians with his battle axe, threw the body upon his shoulder, and bore it off to a place where it would be safe from insult. Returning to the scene of action, and offering a last sacrifice to the manes of his friend, he fell gloriously with his comrades.

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acquires a still more imposing character from the magnificent river, which floats innumerable barges, and at this point becomes the great, uninterrupted, medium of intercourse with Holland. Of the numerous manufactures, which here give scope to the spirit of native enterprise, the silk trade is by far the most flourishing and lucrative, and gives constant employment to a great portion of the inhabitants. The export of wine is also very considerable, and during the fairs, held here in the beginning of October, the streets and suburbs of Basle afford one of the most attractive and animated pictures to be met with in any part of the continent.

Without adverting to the very recent events which interrupted for a time the harmony of the place—but which, like sparks that indicated an approaching conflagration, were happily subdued—we proceed to take a survey of the Field of St James\*—a field with which the heroic records of Switzerland are proudly identified.

At the period when the arms of the Confederacy were fully occupied by the siege of Zurich, and in storming the fortified castle of Farnsburg—the strong hold of Falkenstein, to whose atrocious conduct we have already adverted—a vast body of troops, amounting to thirty thousand, suddenly appeared in sight of Basle.

They were under the command of the dauphin of France, and had been hastily assembled in support of the emperor, whose wars in other parts having weakened his means of defending Zurich, left it exposed to severe and accumulating privations. This army was composed of all those heterogeneous materials which the Comte d'Armagnac had drawn from England,† and other countries, to bear arms against France, and when subsequently disbanded, had overrun the country in marauding enterprises, under the name of Armagnacs. Although weakened by insubordination, still desperation supplied the place of discipline, and fitted them for any enterprise that held out the hopes of plunder, and the means of gratifying their dissolute propensities.

The appearance of this armed multitude, which hung like a thundercloud over the city of Basle, struck the citizens with dismay. Expresses were instantly forwarded to the camp before Zurich, to crave advice and assistance. But their brother confederates, either mistrusting the reputed numbers of the enemy, or despising their character, ordered a detachment of only six hundred men to march for the protection of Basle. "These poltroons" said they.

\* The field of Dornach is another scene where the Swiss arms were victorious and finally consolidated the national independence.

† The English contingent in this instance is reported at eight thousand men.

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The conflict had already continued from day-break till noon, but still the victory was contested with unabated fury. The rudely formed cannon of the time, blazed and thundered on the right. The heavy mailed cavalry, encumbered by their own strength, charged, plunged, and recoiled, before the shock of the Swiss spears. The infantry, armed with bows and battle-axes, and spears, and arquebusses, committed fearful havoc among the wavering columns. As their heavy masses still advanced, and were still mown down, the barrier between the combatants formed a mound of the dead and dying, over whose yet warm bodies they grappled with a ferocity which equally denied and scorned the proffer of quarter. The flags of Berne, Basle, and Soleure, were still waved in defiance, and borne with fearful slaughter through the enemy's ranks, while the standards of France and Austria were alternately struck down, and raised by fresh bearers.

Two Swiss kinsmen having been drawn into an isolated position, where they were exposed at once to eight of the enemy, one of them sank under the accumulated blows of the Armagnacs, who were already in the act of wantonly mutilating the body, when the other, rushing forward, levelled the ruffians with his battle axe, threw the body upon his shoulder, and bore it off to a place where it would be safe from insult. Returning to the scene of action, and offering a last sacrifice to the manes of his friend, he fell gloriously with his comrades.

The Swiss had now, at the point of the sword, hewn their way into the very centre of the enemy, but who, surrounding them on all sides, succeeded at last in cutting them into two divisions—one of which resolutely continued the struggle back to back in the plain, while the other, entrenching itself within the walls and burial ground of St James's Hospital, renewed the combat with a vigour and effect which staggered their assailants, and added fearfully to the slaughter. Already the death roll of the enemy had thrice outnumbered the whole Swiss force, but fresh troops were still poured in, and the ranks of the Confederates,

relieved by no similar aid, had now dwindled to a mere handful of men,—but these, neither giving nor accepting quarter, continued the struggle, and fell where they stood. Thrice they repulsed the enemy's charge, and twice they rushed into the thickest of the *mêlée* with the desperation of men resolved to conquer or perish. But treachery and stratagem were now at work. Already the flames had caught the church and hospital, and in a few minutes the conflagration was at its height. Seized with momentary consternation at this unlooked-for calamity, the wreck of the Swiss was driven from its position. The walls were broken down, and the enemy, rushing in at every gap, and placing them betwixt the conflagration of the building, brought the heroic Swiss to bay. Not a man was left, or surrendered—all died on the spot—ninety nine in the flames, the rest by the sword, and after a conflict of ten hours. Out of the fifteen hundred, ten only are reported to have saved themselves by flight. But so heinous was this offence in the eyes of their countrymen, that they were stigmatized as utterly unworthy of the heroic band who had shed their blood in the cause—treated as outcasts—and excluded from all participation in the honours bestowed upon the dead.\*

At the close of the battle, one of the Armagnac leaders, Burkhard Munch, of Auenstein, while riding with other knights to view the scene of carnage, took a ferocious pleasure in pointing out with insulting raillery the wounded and lifeless bodies of the Swiss—"Now," said he, "I feel, in spurning their base born clay, that my vows are complete—the very grass dyed with their blood seems a path of roses." He had hardly finished the sentence, when a stone, launched with expiring effort from the hand of Arnold Schik, one of the wounded Swiss, shattered his skull, and hurled him to the earth—"There—there!" said Arnold, with a faint convulsive shout, "now smell me the 'roses' thou pratest of, and tell me their scent!"

The dauphin, Louis, not daring to advance in an expedition which had received so dreadful a check, remained on the field of battle, for an alarm had reached him that the siege of Zurich was raised, and the Confederates on their march to support the efforts of the day with their entire force. "By the cross of St Denys," said he, "those be men whom I had much rather meet as friends than foes. To cultivate their acquaintance on such terms as we have done to day, would be too expensive, so we will take our leave for the present

\* This battle was fought on the 26th of August 1444.—On the bloody field near Basle 4 000 Austrians were again routed in 1499 by 1 000 Swiss, and soon afterwards, in the same district, 15 000 of the former, by 6 000 Confederates. In the last instance the prince of Furstenberg and 3 000 Austrians were left dead on the field. This was the battle of Dornach to which we have already adverted.—See ZACHNER.



—one more such victory, and we are lost.' Full of a chivalrous feeling of respect for the Swiss, the Dauphin accordingly retired upon Ensisheim, where a peace was shortly after concluded between France and the Confederates

## CANTONS OF SOLEURE AND NEUCHÂTEL.

*" Que d'objets rassemblés dans ce frais paysage !  
Le fleuve en son heureux passage  
Réfléchit de ses bords la fertile beauté.  
Que le ciel est serene ! quel calme dans les champs !  
Que ces ruisseaux sont doux ! que ces lieux sont touchants*

THE canton of Soleure, or Solothurn—distinguished as the tenth in the Confederation—extends between the Jura and the Aar, over a space of twelve leagues in length, by ten in breadth. It is divided into two districts—the higher and lower. The latter, watered by the Aar, and numerous inferior rivers, presents a scene of great fertility, and with the exception of that portion of the plain immediately above the city, which is rather marshy, is covered with fruit trees, forests, wheat fields, and meadows. The higher district, formed by that part of the Jura which traverses the canton from S W to N E, is intersected by numerous valleys, through which roads, embracing a profusion of picturesque scenery, and opening upon numerous ruined fortresses of the olden time, communicate with the territory of Basle, and the Rhenish border. The most remarkable among these feudal ruins are those of Thierstein, Frobourg, and Falkenstein—to the last of which we have lately adverted in the history of its lord.

The highest points in this district of the Jura are the Hasenmatt, the Rothu, and Yinde—about two thousand feet above the Aar—all calcareous, and abounding in shells and petrifications. Besides the Aar, the principal rivers are the Emme, the Donneron, and the Lusel. The lakes are only two in number, small, and in no respect remarkable. The cattle fed in the mountain pasture\* are among the finest in Switzerland and are now estimated at upwards of twenty thousand. The Soleure ox is of a breed peculiar to the canton and fetches a high price in the market. In the quality and abundance of its

\* It is in this canton, near the ruins of Falkenstein, that the celebrated Geisslasee, or goat-milk cheese is prepared.

produce, this canton may be considered as one of the most fertile in Switzerland. Though little cultivated, the vine, in certain aspects, thrives luxuriantly, while fruit, and every kind of grain, are produced in abundance. For some time past, great pains have been taken to improve the meadows by irrigation, and the arable by a free adoption of those means which the study of agriculture has more recently thrown open, and in no other canton of Switzerland, in proportion to its population, are so many hands employed in rural labour. The principal sources of revenue are the horse and cattle markets, fire wood, marble, the transport of merchandise, the iron mines of the canton, and cotton manufactures. The annual revenues of the state amount to two hundred thousand Swiss francs.

The sovereign and legislative power is exercised by the great Council, consisting of one hundred and one members, from whom the lesser council of twenty-one is elected, and charged with the executive authority. To be eligible to the first of these, the candidate must have completed his twenty fourth year, be an active citizen, free of all responsibility for the debts of others, and master of at least two thousand francs in money, or other substantial property. A father and his son, or two brothers, cannot, at the same time, be members of the lesser council, or of the same tribunal. Every eight years the lesser council is subject, under certain forms to a strict scrutiny on the part of the greater and thus the affairs of government are conducted with exemplary vigilance and impartiality.\*

The reformed worship, now confined to one prefecture—namely, the four parishes of Bucheggberg, containing a population of four thousand—was adopted till the battle of Cappel, in thirty four communes, but which the fate of that day suppressed—restored the ancient rites by force of arms, and completely checked the progress of the Reformation in Soleure, where at first its doctrines had been embraced with peculiar favour. The last census states the entire population at fifty three thousand. In 1827, the number of ecclesiastics was as one to one hundred and fifty two of the inhabitants—namely, ninety eight monks one hundred and twenty three nuns, one hundred and twenty seven secular priests. The town of Soleure alone, with a population of only four thousand five hundred souls, counted sixty five ecclesiastics—a proportion of one to sixty nine. The canton forms part of the bishopric of Basle whose

\* Since 1814 the people have been in a great measure excluded from any share in the administration of public affairs. The witty de Boufflers, were he alive would no longer say of Soleure what he said in the reign of Louis XV. *« Ici le peuple fait lui-même ses lois et le Soleur en gage son perd pour y avoir manqué à la place de se voir obligé par le bon sens »*

jurisdiction extends over the whole northern frontier of Switzerland, and Soleure is now the Episcopal residence

The town of Soleure, the ancient Solodurum, is picturesquely situated about half a league from the southern flank of the Jura, and divided into two unequal parts by the rapid waters of the Aar. The church of St. Ursus, constructed little more than half a century ago, by the Italian architect, Pisani, for the sum of one million nine hundred and twenty thousand francs, French money, is justly admired for the elegance of its design and execution, and considered as the finest specimen of ecclesiastical architecture in Switzerland. The Jesuit's Church—the Town House—the Arsenal—the Hotel of the French ambassadors, now a caserne—the Orphan Hospital—the Prison,\* admirably constructed—the Theatre, and five convents, are severally deserving of attention. But that which most attracts the curiosity of strangers is the Hermitage of St Verene, founded by an Egyptian anchorite, in the seventeenth century.

At a quarter of a league to the north of the town, and on the hill behind the charming retreat of the Hermitage, are the celebrated limestone quarries of Soleure. The method employed for blasting the rock is that of Jessop by which, in addition to the usual charge of powder, a quantity of sand is introduced, by which means, two explosions are sufficient to separate from the solid mass, blocks of one thousand to six thousand cubic feet, and generally without their sustaining the slightest injury. Mr Pfluger, a gentleman of science, and inhabitant of Soleure, has the credit of being the first to recommend this method to the attention of his countrymen, the result of which has been so satisfactory, and also to introduce, at his private expense, the practice in Brazil of mixing with the powder intended for use, a quantity of moistened fir saw-dust, double that of the powder, in which he has perfectly succeeded. Various blocks thus detached, of a single piece, have been formed into basins of fifteen or eighteen feet in length, by ten or twelve in breadth, and been transported as fountains to the remote cantons, as well as into Germany. The marble quarries of Soleure contain several varieties that nearest the town is extremely curious on account of the petrifications and incrustations with which it is filled. The student of natural history will enjoy a great treat in visiting the cabinet formed by the Abbe Huggi, and since purchased by the town. Among the

\* This is a vast improvement upon the ancient prisons of Switzerland, and demonstrates a true of humanity in perfect security. The use of iron is restricted to handcuffs; the walls and ceiling are so well plastered & decorated as to prevent the possibility of escape.

had rendered their arms invincible “United,” he said, “ye have become prosperous at home—respected and feared abroad would ye now forego that glorious reputation and privilege for a disputed share in the plunder of Burgundy?” Let not the surrounding states, I conjure you, imagine for an instant that our internal harmony is interrupted, or that our domestic differences are to favour their own perfidious designs. Let the towns generously forego those privileges which are obnoxious to the ancient Confederates. Let mutual forbearance produce mutual reconciliation! Let the old cantons reflect how bravely the citizens of Friburg and Soleure have seconded them in the hour of battle, and receive them into the bosom of the Confederacy. But beware—beware of extending too widely the boundary which encircles you, shun foreign quarrels—avoid party spirit—and spurn the ignoble thought of bartering your country's good for the stranger's gold. Union is the soul and source of freedom—dissension the rock on which it is split, and having tasted the sweets of independence, how would ye relish the bitterness of bondage?

Such was the effect of this patriotic harangue, that, in a single hour, all cause of dissension had vanished—a new light broke in upon the assembly, and the same day both Soleure and Friburg were welcomed into the Confederacy † The great object of his pious errand thus accomplished, the hermit returned to his solitude, the deputies to their respective cantons, and all to their duty. Mutual confidence and mutual kindness were reestablished in every dwelling, and from the Alps to the Jura the bells proclaimed the joyful tidings of peace and reconciliation.

Soleure has on more than one occasion been providentially saved from the severest of all calamities, midnight treason and massacre. The following is an instance. Count Rudolph, of Hyburg,—whose mountain fortress of Bipp was situated at a short distance from the town, and which he had received in fee from the Counts of Thierstein,—observed with deep regret the alienation, through fault of his predecessors, of so large a portion of his family possessions, for, at that time, Thur and Aarberg had fallen as mortgages into the hands of Bern. By virtue of some rights, real or imaginary, he advanced a claim on Soleure, and flattered himself, that, by stratagem or force, he might regain possession of all those places. With this view, he clandestinely mustered abettors on all sides and designed, amidst the darkness of the night, to surprise and take possession of

\* A spirit of distrust and anxiety had discovered itself among them respecting the allotment of a booty captured in Burgundy as well as on the question of admitting Soleure and Friburg into the Confederacy—See table.

† Dec. 22 1441

with France disappear in the south frontier they approximate closely to those of Bern, and in the opposite direction to those of Basle. The climate of the canton, with few exceptions, is healthy, and in the lower district, the temperature is mild and genial.

Among the celebrated points of view to which the attention of strangers is directed, that from the summit of the Weissenstein is by far the most remarkable, both in extent and combination. It takes precedence, indeed, over every other in the chain of the Jura, and is not surpassed by even the most celebrated among the Alps. Since the publication of Keller's Panorama, taken from this summit, the number of strangers has yearly augmented, and the inducement to visit the scene is greatly increased by the facility of making the ascent in *chers-d-bancs*. On the summit is an extensive inn, recently enlarged, at an additional expense of thirty thousand francs on the part of government, and which visitors may reach even on foot, in two hours and a half from Soleure. It contains twenty-four apartments, forty two beds, two public rooms and a *salle-a-manger*, with an excellent *table d'hôte*, stables, and coach houses. Here, the milk diet and mountain air are often recommended to invalids who resort in considerable numbers to the Weissenstein during the fine season. The view comprises the majestic development of the whole chain of Alps, over an extent of one hundred and thirty, to one hundred and forty leagues, from the Tyro'ese frontier to the west of Mont Blanc, with the summit of Monte Rosa in the south, and flanked on the east with the "wild and was'e Schreckhorn," the Munch, and Jungfrau. By shifting his position to the signal station on the Rothflue, or to the Hasenmatt, the spectator will enjoy a wider and still more variegated panorama.

The Hermitage to which we have alluded is much visited by strangers, and there are few, perhaps, who would not, with slight modifications be delighted to exchange the bustle and tumult of life for its tranquil shade and the enjoyment of that sublime scenery in which it is embosomed. Advancing through a little valley, the hermitage presents itself at the foot of a rock where the modern anchorite (without despising the prospect of worldly recompense) receives his guests, and conducts them with cheerful assiduity to a chapel hewn out of the rock. Here, on every Holy Friday, the natives assemble in crowds to offer their devotions. He next conducts his pious visitors to the spot where, according to the legend, the venerable saint bound himself to a rock in order to resist the force of a torrent in which his grand adversary the devil incensed at the puny of the hermit's life had vainly laboured to swallow him up. Baffled in this says the guide, he next attempted to crush him under a shower



of falling rocks—but all of which the holy man parried with such incredible adroitness, as completely to foil the demon and his works

The historical records which apply more particularly to Soleure and its territory, are full of interest or instruction. The following traits may serve as a mirror to reflect a few characteristic features of the olden time

As the town of Soleure had bravely supported the cause of the Confederates in most of their wars, particularly in those with Burgundy, it had established a fair claim of admission as one of the united cantons. But this measure, though recommended by Bern, was defeated by the jealousy of the small cantons. The latter, indeed, were so vehement in their objections, that the people of Soleure and Triburg generously offered to abandon the question, though, secretly, they could not forgive the insult. Mutual distrust and jealousy were at length vented in words—mutual defiance passed between them, and symptoms of an approaching convulsion were manifested

The pastor of Stanz, grieved at the prospect of the misery which thus threatened his country, suddenly quitted home, and repaired to the solitude of Ransftabel, to communicate the distressing news to Nicholas von der Flue, the hermit of Saxeln, in Obwalden. This holy man, having retired from his family and the world, and fixed his habitation on a solitary rock in the desert, had there spent many years in prayer and meditation, and was held in great reverence by the people for the acknowledged sanctity of his life. The hard boards of his cell served him for a couch—a stone for his pillow, and a belief was current that he had lived for years on no other nourishment than the monthly sacrament at the altar. But though now reasoning as a saint, he had felt, and could still feel, as a man, and in the war of Thurgau had displayed a valour and humanity which did equal honour to him as a Christian and a soldier. As soon as he heard from the pastor the tidings which augured so ill for his country's peace, he quitted his cell, hastened to Stanz, and presented himself in the hall of the assembled diet. At an appearance so strange and unexpected, all rose in silence, and through the coarse garb and attenuated features of the saint could still discern the workings of a patriotic soul, and recognized the arm that once, though now trembling with age and sorrow, had been the shield of his country, and the terror of her adversaries. For an instant he stood in the midst of the assembly like a messenger charged with duties which heaven itself had imposed: then raising his voice like one who, though sent to command was anxious to conciliate and persuade, exhorted them in the name of Him who had so often given them and their fathers the victory, to bury their mutual resentment and restore that fraternal spirit of concord which thus far

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Barbara de Roll, a lady of noble family, long resident in Soleure, and still named with veneration on the banks of the Aar, was remarkable alike for her personal beauty and mental accomplishments. Being left a widow shortly after marriage, she did not, like so many others of her age, shut herself up in a convent, but continued in the world as its ornament and blessing. Much given to the study of botany from her infancy, she now devoted herself to that pleasing occupation, but so as to employ the virtues of numerous plants and flowers, selected by her own hand in the Alps, for the benefit of suffering humanity. The cures which she performed in Soleure among the poor, says the chronicle, were speedily propagated abroad, so that princes, and the highest among the nobility, came to consult her and were cured. In those times the gift was considered miraculous, and Barbara de Roll might have had temples erected to her, but as in life she had performed the service of a good angel without pride or ostentation, so on her death bed she stipulated firmly with those in authority, that neither tomb nor epitaph should be consecrated to her memory, but that she should be quietly consigned to the earth, and her good deeds—if such she had done—remembered only in heaven.—The precise date of her birth or death is unknown †

\* V. SCOTLAND ILLUSTRATED BY Lettington.

† Professor Clavier, who wrote in the fifteenth century in sending L. a Latin poem. Description of "Janegretion Helvet" to a member of the ladies family speaks of her as "equally beauful and benevolent—a female H; says—second M. heads ex." "Ah! he exclaims "à combien de ma sœurs abandonnées des malades n'a-t-elle pas rendu la santé! De tout c'est l'unique en son art à se contenter à un second voyage!"

**Soleure** His uncle, the prior of the church of St Ursus, became a party in the stratagem. The conspirators were to enter through the house of one of the canons, and the alarm bell to be carefully muffled. Every thing being arranged, and the night having closed in, the hostile party were advancing in silent confidence against the town. A peasant, however, who had watched their mysterious movements, posted off to the town, and revealed the murderous project to the sentinel at the gate. On the first impulse of alarm, they flew to ring the tocsin, but this was a fruitless attempt, the bell was too carefully muffled, and too pious, to betray the prior. They next rushed into the street, and by voice and gesture apprising the citizens of their danger, summoned them to the walls. In an instant the whole population flew to arms—some half dressed—others as they had slept—but all armed with whatever weapon came first to hand. In a few minutes the slumbering city was transformed into a bustling camp, the walls were manned, and Kyburg observing at a distance the watch lights, and the fitting of troops, was struck with consternation at the detection of his plot, and hastily retraced his steps. The treacherous prior, who had thus sold his fellow citizens to the sword of Kyburg, was briefly summoned to his account, and sentenced to be quartered. To John Rott, the peasant who had been the guardian angel of the place, and to the eldest in the family of his descendants, it was resolved that the town should present annually, and for ever, a new coat of *red* and *white*—the colours of Soleure—as a perpetual acknowledgment of his fidelity. Kyburg, it may be added, did not long survive the defeat of his murderous project, but, stripped of his possessions, and all his resources exhausted, terminated his life in disgrace.

Of the natives of Soleure more generally known by their valour and patriotism, we may mention Greder, one of the Swiss officers in the service of France, in the seventeenth century. Charged by the king with the defence of Aire, then closely besieged by the Spaniards, he continued to sustain the assault and repulse the enemy till a great portion of the garrison and citizens had fallen victims to the famine which ensued\*. Money had entirely disappeared, but Greder, to pay his soldiers, caused his own plate to be melted and converted into money, and soon after fell himself a victim to the hardships which he had so unsparingly shared with his brothers in arms. After his death, the few of the Swiss regiment who survived the capitulation were permitted to retire with the honours of war.

\* A dog sold for twenty two livres—a cat for twelve; and when every thing else had disappeared the soldiers were reduced to the miserable necessity of buying the leather of their accoutrements to appease the cravings of hunger.

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Among other traits of magnanimity which have done immortal honour to the nobles of Soleure, it is pleasing to record the following —At a period when religious animosity was at its height in these parts, and many of the districts of Soleure had embraced the reformed faith, the five catholic cantons demanded, as an *indemnification*, a thousand gold florins, or else, that the inhabitants of the canton should return to their former creed. On this notification, the greater number, rather than pay the fine, did so, and embracing the alternative, returned to mass. In the town itself, however, the Catholics, whose ranks had been thinned, took up arms against the reformists, and to compel them to abjure the new faith, advanced with a loaded cannon in front of the house where they were holding their deliberations. Here the fatal match was on the point of being applied, when, suddenly, a venerable man, making his way through the infuriated mob, and presenting his breast before the mouth of the cannon, exclaimed,—“ If at your hands the blood of your fellow-citizens must flow, let mine be shed the first!” A feeling of awe and admiration pervaded the multitude at an act of devotion so exalted and patriotic. The match was extinguished—the cannon wheeled from its position—the crowd dispersed, and, in the venerable old man, whose timely intervention had spared so much crime and bloodshed, they beheld WENGI, the President of Soleure.

Among various places of fashionable resort to which the citizens repair for health or recreation, are the Baths of Attisholtz\*. Here, during the fine summer evenings, the visitors often form moon light parties to the Hasenmatt, the point of view already noticed, and certainly a more romantic excursion it would be difficult to imagine. Those who have only visited that summit in broad day can form no adequate idea of the transformation which it assumes under the influence of moon shine and merry companions.

Of the geology of this part of the Jura, we may briefly notice the numerous blocks of gneiss and granite scattered over the space north of the town, and still sharp as if but fresh fractured. These fragments of primitive mountains, as stated in a former page of this work, abound on the Jura, and seem to have been transported thither from the very centre of the Alps. Those which are found on the reverse of the Jura, eastward from Soleure, and extending beyond Bienne, Neuchâtel, and Grandson, have been discharged from the primitive chain of the Grimsel. All those, on the contrary, which are observed to the

\* The water contains sulphur and iron and is much employed in nervous spasmodic and catarrhal affections. The establishment is well organized and the prices moderate. In the neighbourhood the discovery of an altar dedicated to the god Apollon and part of an aqueduct show that the place and spring were well known to the Romans.

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In botanic productions, Soleure is particularly rich, and comprises many rare plants and flowers, of which those deserving especial distinction are the *Thlaspi saxatile*, *Arundo donax*, *Anagallis tenella*, *Ulex Europæus*, and the *Fritillaria meleagris*

A great portion of what we have already observed on the Statistics of Soleure, will be found applicable to the canton of Neuchâtel—the twenty first of the Confederation After having twice changed masters, this principality was again called upon, in 1707, to choose a third, as heir to Mary, duchess of Nemours This princess dying without family, left a host of pretenders to the sovereignty, all of whom preferred titles to consanguinity, more or less valid—but all remote Among these, the king of Prussia and Louis XIV were rival candidates, but the latter being too well known and feared, and the former—as a protestant sovereign, whose states lay at a distance—seeming to augur well for the moderation of his future government, the balance was decided in his favour, and the claims and solicitations of the French king cautiously evaded

In 1806, Buonaparte, then emperor of France, as a recompense for the military services of his companion in arms, Alexander Berthier, named him prince of Neuchâtel It is only since the important changes of 1814, that the country was restored to the dominion of Prussia, and in the year following became annexed to the Confederation

The canton is composed of six principal valleys, the soil of which affords excellent pasture, but few fruit trees or leguminous plants The mountains are of the same geological character, and present nearly the same phenomena, as those already described Enormous blocks of granite scattered over the mountains appear to have been torn from the Bernese Alps, and transported into their present position during some remote convulsions of our globe to which hitherto, science has afforded little satisfactory elucidation \* The mountains

\* The different layers of which the Jura is composed have been carefully studied by M de Buch in the deep gorge of the Seyon According to his observations it may be conjectured that the mountains of the Jura to a depth of three thousand feet, are composed of about a no hundred and sixty layers, all more or less calcareous The sixty three last and highest of these are mostly *oolithyques* and composed of particles about the size of millet seeds The four hundred and eighty six immediately below these are of a much more compact nature The four hundred and ten which follow are again *oolithyques* like the first Lastly one hundred more layers exist under these last which are now exposed in the canton of Neuchâtel and descend as deep as the gypsum beds where the salt springs of Salins and Lénaire Saurin take their rise In the valley of Môtiers Travers is an *oolithyque* rock from which asphaltum is obtained by distillation and used in the country as carriage grease—See PICOT STATIST



contain, with many curious grottoes, two natural ice-houses, and several sulphureous and chalybeate springs, of which the three highest are the Chasserrat, Chasseron, and Creux du vent, each between four and five thousand feet above the sea.

In the middle ages, the greater part of this canton was covered with impenetrable forests, and abounded in bears, wild boar, deer, and wolves. But, with the exception of the latter,—now also rare,—they have all disappeared, while the fox, protected by the nature of the rocks, and his own superior instinct, is the only freebooter left. The lakes\* of Neuchâtel and Bienné—the latter belonging to Bern—are of classical celebrity, and too familiar to every reader to require a particular description, but to which we shall advert as we proceed. The Reuse and the Seyon—the first remarkable for its limpid current, and the latter for its impetuosity—are the principal rivers of the canton.

Ruz, the first of the six principal valleys, is four leagues in length, and contains twenty three villages. Here, driven from their home, during the wars of their counts with the dukes of Savoy, many Genevese found an asylum, and the sources of their future prosperity. The small town of Vallengin—*Vallis angusta*—in this valley, is conspicuous for the industry of its population, and the richness of its diminutive territory. The valley of the Sagne is of the same extent as that of Ruz, and, in addition to its well cultivated and productive soil, contains a mineral source. In the valley of Locle,† two leagues in extent, nature and art are found in less pleasing cooperation. Here the winter lasts seven months—the soil produces little, save pasture—and most of the necessities of life are imported. The manufacture of clocks and watches is the chief employment. The Bied, a torrent whose waters are here lost in the rocks, has hollowed out vast caverns, which two enterprising natives, brothers, of the name of Robert, have turned to account, by the bold and ingenious construction of three subterraneous mills, placed vertically, one above the other.

In order to purify the air and improve the climate of Locle—three thousand feet above the level of the sea—a mountain has been successfully perforated, so as to admit of a free escape for the stagnant waters, and thereby contributed essentially to the health and appearance of the village. The valley of

\* The *S. Jura glanis* one of the most remarkable fish in the country is occasionally taken in these waters weighing 100lbs.

† This valley was at first a savage "howling wilderness" so late as the fourteenth century and resorted to by bears and wolves. The first colon it was John Droz, of Lucerne who, with his four children and a small number of industrious followers established himself in its inhospitable solitudes in 1503. It is now one of the richest and most populous valleys in Switzerland or perhaps in Europe. Such a day may be the wisest of the back settlements in America and Van Diemen's Land.

Chaux-de-Fond, of similar extent with the preceding, is little favoured by nature, but thickly peopled with industrious mechanics and their families, of whom the celebrated M. Droz and his son have given an illustrious example. The next valley, that of Brenets, is traversed by the Doubs, which, till modern enterprise had hewn a passage for its escape, formed a lake. Near the village is the cavern of Tosiere, remarkable for its echo, and the tables and seats which Nature, in sport, seems to have furnished for her visitors. About a league from this, and in a truly savage gorge, is the Saut-du Doubs, where the river precipitates itself from a height of eighty feet, and in its fall gives play to twelve mills, and a forge for making anvils.

The valley of Brevine is the highest in the canton, two leagues in length, and contains the Etalieres, a lake which escapes in the same manner as that of Joux, and where the waters, after flowing for several leagues under ground, form the source of the Reuse, at St Sulpice. Subterraneous mills have been also erected in those clefts of the rocks, which here serve as outlets to the waters of the lake. Near this village is the vegetable coal mine, alluded to in our account of the Rossberg, and supposed to be the product of the forests swallowed up in the great earthquake of 1356, which overthrew the city of Basle. In the valley of Verrieres is the commune named Cote aux Fees, or the Faery Mount, in which are several grottos, the principal of which is distinguished as the Temple of the Faeries—the only instance in Switzerland, perhaps, where the name of that mysterious dynasty is recognised. We have already noticed the remarkable anomaly that Switzerland, the most romantic country in Europe, presents few or none of the thousand legends and superstitions so carefully preserved and circulated among the English, and more particularly the Scotch and Irish, peasantry. The fairy gossip, and fairy land mythology, which are first learned in the nurseries of the north, and there group the peasantry around the winter hearth, are yet strangers to the Swiss. The only phantoms which seem to cross his imagination are the spirits of heroic ancestors, with their bucklers and spears, and cross-bows, and their abhorrence of bondage. But to return to our subject—The entrance to this "temple," which is beyond dispute the finest grotto in Switzerland, is very narrow, and in the interior are three galleries, of which that in the centre terminates in a vista over the valley of St. Croix, in the district of Verdun. About a league from Verrieres, and near the river Doubs, in the French territory, is the picturesque fortress of Joux.

The Val de Travers, watered by the limpid Reuse, is about three leagues in length, and contains the beautiful villages of St. Sulpice, Fleurier, Motiers, Travers, and Couvet, the latter the birth place of the ingenious and celebrated

Berthoud, inventor of the chronometer for determining the longitude at sea. He died here in 1806. The village of Motiers is immortalized as the temporary residence of Rousseau. The chamber where he composed his "*Lettres de la Montagne*," is still preserved in the same state in which it was left, when the inhabitants drove him from his humble retreat, and compelled him to take refuge in the solitary isle of Bienné—a circumstance to which we shall advert as we proceed. Near this, in a deep and extensive cavern, is another of those natural ice houses above noticed, and to which we descend by means of a ladder. The floor is covered with a thick layer of ice, above which rise five or six icy columns, the whole cavern is remarkable, and, that of St George above Rolle excepted, the only instance of this description in the Jura.

The town of Neuchâtel is well built, and is every year receiving fresh architectural embellishments from the opulent families and individuals who have here fixed their residence. It contains several remarkable buildings, and among others the Chateau, the ancient residence of the princes of Neuchâtel—the Cathedral, built in the twelfth century, (in front of which is the tomb stone of Farel,) the Town house, and Public Hospital.

St Blaise is a large and handsome village, about a league from the capital, with high white walls, from this point the lake, now navigated by the Union steam vessel, is seen in all its extent and beauty. The white wine of St Blaise is held in high estimation by connoisseurs.\*

The King of Prussia, who is sovereign of the country, is bound to maintain it in all its ancient laws, customs, privileges, independence, and religious toleration. The Protestant churches are under the direction of the Company of Pastors, and the Consistory, those of the Catholics, under the titular bishop of Lausanne. Trade is liberally protected, no tax can be levied or modified without an express law, and natives only, the governor excepted, are eligible to offices of public trust. The *Audiences Générales*, composed of the oldest members of the council of state, chiefs of jurisdictions, and the deputies of districts, are, with the king, the supreme authority of the canton, and without whose consent no law can be made, modified or annulled. The king is represented by a governor and state council, usually of twenty-one members. In the canton

\* The mean produce of the vines of Neuchâtel, the management of which affords employment to so many hands, is estimated at three millions of pots—each of two pints, out of which one million eight hundred thousand are sold to the neighbouring cantons, or otherwise exported, and taken at an average of three batz the pot, leave a product of five hundred and forty thousand Swiss livres (33,750 £). The wines are the best estimated on those produced from the red grape of Centallo, Neuchâtel, and Faverge, which may well be preferred to those of Burgundy. A vineyard of this quality bears three or four hundred to six hundred pears, a measure of 57.63 feet square.

are twenty one courts of justice, and two tribunals of appeal, and among its inhabitants are several privileged classes, who enjoy various rights and immunities. The existing laws bear great resemblance to those of the ancient comte of Burgundy—antiquated customs which have never been reduced into any regular code. The militia is divided into six departments, with a major or lieutenant colonel, named by the king, at their head, and furnishes a battalion of *tirailleurs* to the royal guard. The king's revenue arises from the duty upon various articles of trade, rents of domains, posts, tolls, and tithes, and amounts to about one hundred and fifty thousand livres, more than half of which is necessarily employed in the country. The exportation of rural produce is limited to cheese, a small number of cattle, and wine but the cotton manufactures are lucrative and numerous. In 1780, the annual export of watches alone amounted to forty thousand and is now little short of one hundred and forty thousand, the value of each varying from seven francs to eight hundred. The daily pay of a good workman is ten to twelve livres, and the average of all, children included, about twelve batz (1s 6d). The manufacture of mathematical and other instruments, is also a special branch of industry. The population of the canton is stated by the latest returns at about fifty three thousand, among whom the habit and fruits of industry are generally conspicuous.\*

Among the celebrated individuals to whom this canton has given birth, we may mention Osterwald, Bourguet, Boyve, Hory, and Montmollin—men who have reflected lustre on their age and country. The Reformation was established in this canton by a very summary method, and in opposition to the authority of the magistrates. A party of the inhabitants having gone to support the cause of Geneva in 1530 against the duke of Savoy, they embraced the reformed doctrine, and on their return home took forcible possession of the churches. Their system of proselytism met with so much success, that on the 10th of November, the same year, the new religion was adopted by a majority of eighteen votes—an event which was greatly accelerated by the powerful eloquence of Farel, who performed so conspicuous a part in forwarding that great moral revolution. Education, and the facilities for its acquirement, are proverbially good in this canton and within reach of the poorest, but the students of theology repair to Lausanne or Geneva—those of medicine to the German universities.—Of Yverdon and Pestalozzi we shall speak in our notice of the canton de Vaud and of other particulars in the Appendix.

\* For these and other facts connected with the present state of industry and commerce in Switzerland, the reader may consult Professor LICOT'S *Statistique de la Suisse* last edition, p. 563.

## CANTON OF BERN.

## TOUR OF THE OBERLAND

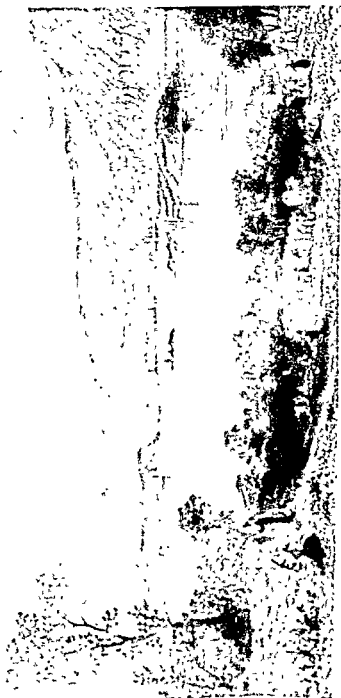
'BERNE C'est la couronne des villes libres chacun la loue à juste titre  
 quiconque en a entendu parler sait qu'elle est un séjour des héros et un miroir  
 où brille une image sans tache jeunes et vieux font retentir ses éloges par toute  
 l'Allemagne.—TSCHUDI

IN retracing our steps to the western extremity of the Lake of Bienné, many beautiful and interesting views present themselves—particularly those of Jolimont, the Château Bailival, and the ancient Abbey of Erlach, near the embouchure of the Thiele. But here, with the island of St Pierre immediately in front, our eyes insensibly lose sight of other objects, and the imagination excited at the name, we embark on the blue waters of the lake, and are speedily landed on the sanctuary of Rousseau.

The house where he resided has long served as an inn, and here his admirers will be gratified by finding every thing—particularly his room—in nearly the same state as the philosopher left it. It is surrounded on three sides by a piazza, level with the ground—one forms the farm offices, the second the dwelling house, and the third serves for the accommodation of strangers. A huge walnut tree throws its shade over the whole court. In the interior, the walls of the apartment occupied by the "priest of nature" are so covered with names, dates, and sentiments, that it was with great difficulty we found one little spot to receive the record of our pilgrimage. The *livre d'étrangers* was no less charged with precious memorials—

Of him who chose the mountains for a shrine  
 And solitude for joy

The walks through the wood and orchard with which the island is covered are delightful and refreshing, and, fanned by the cool breath of the lake, afford a delicious retreat during the summer solstice. From the eminence in the centre, occupied by an elegantly designed temple, the view is strikingly picturesque. The ground, covered with rich velvet turf, such as bordered the enchanted isle of Calypso, slopes gently towards the shore, and contrasts its own bright green with the deep blue of the water in which it is imbedded. It was near sunset, and we stood as if fixed to the spot which, whatever it may



derive from the power of association, seemed to grow in beauty and attractions as the sun went down on the Jura.\* It was an hour worthy of the muse

" The flitting to and fro of birds  
Tranquil and tame as they were once  
In Eden, ere the start'ng world  
Of man disturbed their ornate—  
Those little shadowy paths that wind  
Along the lake with fruit trees lined,  
And lighted only by the breaks  
The gay wind in the flag makes  
Or vases here and there that ope  
Through the weeping willows like the stretches  
O'er off scenes of light and hope  
Even through the shade of sedges caught

In the picture which Rousseau himself has left us of his delicious sojourn in this island, there is much that tends to develop his real character. The plan which he here laid down to describe the vegetable riches with which his little kingdom was stored—the zeal with which he entered upon it—(a zeal equalled only by the facility with which he could renounce it)—the ineffable pleasure which he felt in seeing his books, his manuscripts, and whatever could remind him of authorship, carefully packed away—those delicious and indefinable reveries, when stretched supine in his open boat, he suffered it to float at large—the ambition he took in acquiring a knowledge of the oar—the secret pride he felt in observing that the factor's wife was never without apprehensions but when he rowed—the solemn installation of his colony of rabbits in the little island—are all features in his character which cannot fail to interest every feeling reader, and awaken the kindest sympathies in his behalf. To see this celebrated philosopher, the most eloquent author of his day, suddenly emerging from the literary Babel, and shaking off the trammels of that artificial existence which was a burden to him, in order to give himself up with all the simplicity of his heart to such "vulgar" pastimes—are points which, however speculated upon, or misinterpreted by others, say more in his favour than all that has been insinuated to the contrary can say to his prejudice. He was, to speak with moderation, a better man than many of his accusers—"Lami de Bernardin de Saint-Pierre ne pouvait être un méchant homme—le même antagoniste constant de Voltaire ne peut être un écrivain immoral †

\* There are two trees to which our attention was directed and which had a claim upon our feelings over every other group in the forest. Here while viewing the scenery which we now viewed, and melted by the feelings which that scenery inspired, a nobleman once directed that his body should be consigned to the dust that he might take his last sleep where he had spent the happiest moments of his life.—See Appendix.

† Comte de Waul.

command an entire view of the enemy's camp, and observe every movement of the nobles as they paraded their vast army, and, by anticipation, divided the spoils of Bern. The instant they came fully in sight, the signal was given to charge, and the Burgundians rushed forward to drive them from their position. But the slingers of Erlach sent such a hail shower among them, that they were staggered in their resolution, while the iron battle-cars thundering down the declivity, and followed by the standards of Bern waving over her serried mass of steel pointed clubs, spears, and halberts, carried destruction into the enemy's ranks. The shock of the charge was so terrific, that the Bernese column in the rear, composed of raw militia, were panic struck at the sight, and retreated from the scene of action. "Let them flee," said Erlach, piqued at the sight—"it were unjust that such base and dastardly spirits should share in the conquest which awaits the brave and free!"—It is thus that the chaff is winnowed from the grain!

The battle continued for some time doubtful, for each fought with desperation, and the warriors of Bern and Burgundy performed prodigies of valour. But, notwithstanding their vast superiority in numbers, the columns of Rudolph began to recoil, and, at length, with fifteen hundred of his followers lying dead around him, that chivalrous noble surrendered life and victory to the champion of Bern.

The war, notwithstanding, was continued for four years in skirmishes, and then terminated in a peace every way glorious to Bern, whose citizens refused to retain the smallest portion of land as an indemnity for the past, or guarantee for the future. "No," said they, "we have saved our city and our homes, and we will not sully so sacred a cause by an act that should convict us of interested and ambitious views. Does any one require compensation for his services? Let him look to the capital—it is safe—tears of gratitude are his reward, let him claim for his posterity the respect due from a grateful country to a hero and a patriot."

Once more reinstated in his peaceful occupations, and unambitious of rewards dignities, or titles, Erlach like another Cincinnatus, devoted himself to the cultivation of his paternal farm. Thus engaged, he descended quietly into the vale of years, till his son in law, Jobst of Rudenz, in consequence of some violent dispute concerning his wife's dowry, tore down from the wall where it hung the sword of the victor of Laupen and plunged it into his heart! Then, rushing from the house, pursued by the dogs of his murdered father in law, the parricide effected his escape, and was never more heard of.

The patriotic Bubenbergh was hardly more fortunate for, being accused



Of one of the many botanizing excursions to which Rousseau alludes with such lively satisfaction, the annexed particulars, communicated by his companion, the late Comte d'Escherny, can hardly fail to be acceptable to most readers. It is an excursion to the Chasseral, the highest summit to the north of the lake:—As a part of the valley lay between them and the mountain, and the excursion might exceed one day, they provided accordingly, and charged a sumpter mule with their equipage—namely, covering for the night, pies, fowls, and roast game. Leclerc was caterer—De Peyron had charge of the herbals—Colonel Pury was guide, and led his party by the compass. The comte himself, accustomed to the mountains where he had so long resided, was installed as *fourrier*, and had besides charge of the coffee, and the task of making it. Rousseau, as senior of the party, was elected captain of the troop, and invested with full power to enforce strict discipline, and maintain order and subordination. In this order the botanizing battalion began their march, but it soon appeared that the fatigues of the expedition were not supported with equal success. Rousseau, in virtue of office, led the van; and, with the comte, was the first who gained the crest of the Chasseral, terminating in a broad flat rock—isolated, and thrown up into the air. This is called the *beak* of the Chasseral; and on the magnificent table thus prepared for them, they had agreed to make their repast. The other guests soon arrived—the *maitre-d'hôtel* arranged the banquet in the most satisfactory order, and in a few minutes all were seated or stretched at table, laughing, jesting, and feasting, at the same time; and never was a dinner, says the comte, shared under the broad sky of the Jura with better appetite or lighter hearts—"Les ragoûts fins sont bien ridicules à des gens en haleine depuis le lever du soleil."

Before engaging in the thick woods where they were to herborize next day, they took the precaution to reconnoitre the ground. The *bec du Chasseral*, as observed, is a kind of projection, or pier, carried up and forward into the air; and below is an abyss, too deep for the eye to penetrate. The mountain to the right and left forms a complete precipice, and, at a bird's-eye view, presents the same chasm as the other. In summer, the cows are allowed to pasture along these treacherous precipices, and attracted at times by the savoury grass and plants which fringe their border, the earth under them gives way, and they are thus hurried down into the gulf. At this moment two or three lay dead at the foot of the precipice, but at so great a depth, that they scarcely appeared so large as hares.—It is needless to say how, in such a place, and with such congenial spirits, the day passed rapidly away. They were animated with the extensive prospect—the purity of the atmosphere—the success of their

enterprise—and made a collection of such plants as only grow on the highest points of the Jura. Rousseau was in the best possible humour; but when any one of the party, eager to get possession of some tempting flower, approached too near the brink of the precipice, he was distressed beyond expression, and even on his knees implored them to observe more caution.

Resuming our progress towards the Swiss capital, as Bern is properly considered, we next enter the town of Aarberg by one of those fine covered bridges with which the river is frequently spanned, and leave it by a second of the same character; for the town itself, when the water is high, is entirely surrounded by the Aar. It is a very active and commercial place, and owes its prosperity to the great roads which concentrate at this point.

A few miles to the right, at the confluence of the Sense and Sarine, are the town and "field" of Laupen, famous for the victory obtained by the Bernese in June 1339, over the nobles of Burgundy and their allies. The power which Bern had acquired by the public spirit of its citizens—the fame of their arms—the flourishing state of trade—and the recent acquisition of Habsburg and Laupen, had so excited the jealousy of Friburg and its confederate nobles, that they determined to watch for an opportunity to humble so prosperous a neighbour. A pretext for aggression was soon afforded. Bern having objected to admit into circulation the money struck by Comte Eberhard of Kyburg, though coined with the imperial sanction, and to recognise the Emperor Louis of Bavaria when under sentence of excommunication, the nobles seized upon this as a fitting occasion for punishing the refractory citizens, and summoned their vassals to arms. Resolved on this enterprise, Rudolph, of the family of Neuchâtel, who had lately fortified his villages of Erlach and Nidau, and given them the rights and privileges of cities, assembled all who were hostile to Bern in the castle of Nidau,\* where it was decreed that proud city should be rased to the ground.

\* Of this castle the following circumstance is recorded —Bern and Soleure having taken this fortress in 1388, found in the tower two prisoners quite naked, almost famished, and in the most deplorable condition of mind and body. One of these was the bishop of Lisbon, and the other the prior of Almazón, who had been sent into Germany by the Pope on some negotiation of importance, but, having necessarily to cross a part of the Swiss territory on their return home, they were seized by a detachment from the garrison of Nidau, secretly imprisoned in the tower, and permitted to hold no intercourse with their friends or country. The Bernese conducted them to the capital—furnished them with clothes, horses, and attendants, and a sum of three hundred ducats, to enable them to prosecute their journey in comfort. They proceeded by Lucern and the St. Gothard, and having safely arrived in Rome, instantly dispatched not only the three hundred ducats, but an additional sum of one thousand more, in testimony of their gratitude and to assist in defraying the extraordinary expenses of the siege to which they owed their liberation.

A great number of troops were accordingly mustered—Aargau, Friburg, Upper Burgundy, and Alsace, sent each a powerful contingent. Seven hundred nobles with crowned helmets, and twelve hundred knights in complete armour, shone in the van of fifteen thousand infantry supported by three thousand horse—the amount of the Confederates.

This formidable armament, although it did not intimidate the Bernese, led, nevertheless, to their adopting every reasonable means of accommodation; but in this they entirely failed. Their endeavours to negotiate were construed into weakness or cowardice; and the courage of the assailants rising in proportion, they would listen to no terms short of unconditional submission. In this exigency, John of Bubenbergh, formerly chief magistrate, stepped nobly forward, and declared himself ready to embark life and property in the cause. "Laupen," said he, "shall not fall, if true arms and trusty followers can effect its safety. The enemy, it is true, beleaguers its walls; but they may find ere long, that the sword of a free citizen of Bern cuts as sheer as the noblest steel of Burgundy." So saying, he placed himself at the head of six hundred warriors, and marched to the relief of the garrison at Laupen. He was scarcely gone, however, when the arrival of Rudolph of Erlach\* was announced to the senate. Having inherited his father's talents, and in a long series of foreign service contributed to the victory in six different engagements, he was welcomed with acclamation, and chosen general of the Bernese in the approaching conflict.

Every man now repaired to his post; and, associating the name of Erlach and victory, foretold in the ensuing battle a second *Donnerbühl*. Besides the forces already on the march, a subsidy of nine hundred men was dispatched across the Brunig from the cantons of Uri, Schwytz, and Unterwalden; and six hundred more from Hasli and the Siebenthal. Soleure† also furnished fourscore horsemen fully equipped; for the citizens had not forgotten the prompt and friendly intervention of Bern on a former occasion.

With the force named, and about four thousand armed citizens of Bern, Erlach took up his position on a hill near Laupen, from which he could

\* Son of the famous Ulrich of Erlach, who, forty years before, had won the battle of *Donnerbühl*.

† Three years after the battle of Morgarten, when Duke Leopold of Austria, at the head of a powerful army, took up his position in front of Soleure, Bern, with friendly promptitude, marched an auxiliary force to its relief. Leopold, however, owed his defeat less to the united force of arms than to the violence of the Aar, and the magnanimity of the inhabitants of Soleure, for the swollen river having swept away his bridge of boats, the generous citizens, forgetting every hostile sentiment, hastened to rescue their sinking enemies from the waves—and this at their own imminent risk. For the honour of humanity, rancour for a time was changed into gratitude, and a peace concluded between the emperor and Soleure.

command an entire view of the enemy's camp, and observe every movement of the nobles as they paraded their vast army, and, by anticipation, divided the spoils of Bern. The instant they came fully in sight, the signal was given to charge, and the Burgundians rushed forward to drive them from their position. But the slingers of Erlach sent such a hail shower among them, that they were staggered in their resolution, while the iron battle-cars thundering down the declivity, and followed by the standards of Bern waving over her serried mass of steel pointed clubs, spears, and halberts, carried destruction into the enemy's ranks. The shock of the charge was so terrific, that the Bernese column in the rear, composed of raw militia, were panic struck at the sight, and retreated from the scene of action. "Let them flee," said Erlach, piqued at the sight—"it were unjust that such base and dastardly spirits should share in the conquest which awaits the brave and free!"—It is thus that the chaff is winnowed from the grain!"

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The patriotic Rubenberg was hardly more fortunate, for, being accused



of governing with all the hereditary pride of a prince instead of the simplicity of a citizen, and of attending too exclusively to matters in which his personal interest was consulted, he was banished from the city for one hundred years and a day. Fourteen years later, however, when old and infirm, the sentence was cancelled, and he was again received into that home which he had been so instrumental in preserving. On this subject, it is observed by Zschokke, that, "in a free state, the virtues of a citizen will often efface the recollection of former faults, but that previous services never atone for subsequent wrongs."

The stranger who approaches Bern by the road from Morat cannot fail to be struck with the magnificent view which suddenly bursts upon him as he winds round the amphitheatre of verdant hills, "redolent of summer, and enlivened with the song of birds." From the Oberthor, the city is spread forth to his eye like a map, and the singularly rich, various, and animated picture, takes for a time entire possession of his fancy. On the right, the blue and rapid waters of the Aar approach, pass, and depart from the city, to whose beauty and prosperity they so highly contribute. On the left, rich meadows, rising gently into green acclivities, fade into the horizon. Part of the town is masked by a rich curtain of intervening foliage, but the eye traces the busy street of the Kramgats to its full extent, and the rattle of wheels, and the murmur from its market place, strike fitfully on the ear. Directing his view to the south, the glacier summits of the Oberland present their impenetrable barrier in broken serrated masses, imbedded in the deep blue sky.

*Et lorsqu'aban l'onnant ces informes beautés  
Qui rejou sent b'entôt les yeux épouvantés  
J'entrevois ces talons—ces beaux lieux où respire  
Un climat que Sa nt I reux n'a pas n'ême d'écriter*

Among the numerous objects of interest or curiosity in Bern, the first usually visited is the Cathedral—a Gothic structure of the middle age, and greatly admired for its imposing architecture and elaborate detail. There is not another sacred edifice on the continent, perhaps, better calculated to make a strong impression. Its length is one hundred and sixty feet by eighty in breadth, and was fourscore years in building. The nave—the vaulted roof of which is supported by ten columns—was formerly decorated with a great number of banners taken on the field of battle. But these have disappeared, and all that now remains are some faded scutcheons of the ancient burgesses, the monument of the duke of Zœrighen, the founder, and that of the avoyer, Steinger. Around the latter, six marble tablets, encrusted on the wall, commemorate the names

of eighteen officers, and six hundred and forty three soldiers, who fell in conflict with the French in the eventful campaign of 1798 \* On the tower of the cathedral, a watchman is stationed night and day throughout the year, to strike the hours, and give alarm in case of fire The great Catholic church is also a structure of considerable elegance and great antiquity

The platform, or terrace, in front of the cathedral, is a favourite walk in Bern, and—from the sublime and infinitely varied scenery which it commands—the finest, perhaps, in Switzerland. Under the shade of luxuriant chestnut trees, seats are distributed in every direction for the pleasure and accommodation of the public On the south, the platform ends in a precipice one hundred and eight feet in depth, and is occupied by the houses of the old town, flanking the channel of the Aar Near this giddy verge a marble slab records the following extraordinary escape —In 1654, Theobald Weinzapf, a student of the place, unable to manage a restive horse which he rode,—or having, according to the proverb, “a spur in the head as well as in the heel,”—was precipitated into the lower town Strange to say, he escaped with only a broken arm and leg and survived the accident thirty years as a preacher The construction of this terrace, as a masterpiece of peculiar architecture, is well deserving of observation The wall which faces it on the side of the river was completed in 1515, at an expense of two hundred thousand francs—an enormous sum in those days

In the principal streets of this city, the pedestrian is protected by long covered porticos, raised above the carriage path, and affording, according to the season, an agreeable shade or shelter The centre of the streets is occupied by an open stone canal, filled with a rapid current of water, and kept as clean swept as the floor of a cottage These are further embellished by a profusion of beautiful fountains surmounted with statues.

The public institutions, and the literary and scientific societies of Bern, reflect the highest honour on its citizens, whose taste and refinement have kept pace with their love of freedom, and excited by their example a most beneficial influence on the surrounding states The Academy, divided into the higher and lower, embraces a system of education commencing with the first rudiments of language, and extending to the highest pitch of modern science and erudition †

\* There are also some richly stained glass and carving in the choir at the side of which are preserved several embroidered carpets, tapestry and wearing apparel from the wardrobe of Charles the Bold.

† The first division comprises the elementary school, a school of the classes, and a gymnasium the latter or higher divisions chairs for theology jurisprudence medicine surgery chemistry philosophy rhetoric mathematics natural history mineralogy and veterinary surgery besides several extra lectures on therapeutics, clinical medicine, and anatomy

The excellent effects of the Economical Society in all that respects improvement in agricultural and national industry has been long and justly appreciated. The Society of Native History—the Helvetic Society—the Artists' Society, and several of minor note, are all more or less distinguished for the fund of science and general information thus accumulated.

The public Library, founded at the epoch of the Reformation, and at which the celebrated Haller presided from 1731 to 1736, contains upwards of forty thousand volumes, and about one thousand five hundred manuscripts. The Cabinet of Medals is particularly rich in ancient coins, many of which are exceedingly curious and rare. They were found chiefly in the Swiss territory—among the ruins of Aventicum, Vindonissa, and Moudon •

Among the many names which have reflected lustre on this city and canton, we need only cite those of the Erlachs and Bubenbergs, already noticed, Diesbach, who fell at the battle of Pavia, Berthold Haller, who preached the Reformation at Bern in 1520, Wittenbach, who died in 1526, Jean Louis d'Erlach, Marshal of France, Andrew Morell, the celebrated medallist, Louis de Muralt, Michael Schuppach, the "mountain doctor"† the great Albert Haller, Watteville, Stapfer, Tschanner, Sinner, and, in recent times, Charles Louis d'Erlach, sprung from a race of heroes, who commanded the troops of Bern in 1798, and fell by the hands of his own soldiers.

One of the finest points of view in the environs of Bern is the English, which every stranger should visit—and if at different hours of the day, so much the better, for it thus presents itself under such striking modifications as to give novelty and freshness to every succeeding view. This is the point which, of all others in German Switzerland, presents the most sublime spectacle during the evening illumination. Half obscured in the shadows of twilight, the mountains in the fore ground appear softly blending into a blue ethereal mass, the dazzling summits of the snowy range seem for a time to lose their lustre. Then suddenly, as the rays of the departing sun shoot upwards, they catch the quivering light, and seem transformed into a flood of rosy effulgence. This evening blush continues for a few minutes to tint the snowy region with the warm hue of life, then, slowly fading away—like the hectic flush from the cheek of expiring beauty—finally disappears, and leaves the snows in their pale, cold, and shroud-like uniformity.

• The Museum the College the Public Granary the Arsenal and the Hospitals are all of a very superior order and well calculated to gratify the curious and philanthropic stranger.

† See Cox's Letters



The two bastions which flank the fortifications on the south present nearly the same view, and are much frequented as an evening promenade. One of them, planted in imitation of an English garden, offers a most delicious retreat. The Wetterhorn, the Berglistock, the Schreckhorn, the Finsteraarhorn, the two peaks of the Viescherhorner, the Eiger, the grand Eiger or Monch, and the Jungfrau, are exhibited in all their sublime array.

The other bastion, carpeted with rich verdure, serves as an occasional field for public diversions. Here gymnastics are practised, balloons let off, fire works exhibited, and here the peasants of the Oberland and Emmenthal formerly assembled every Easter Monday, to exhibit their skill in the ancient games of wrestling\*. The fosse which surrounds this part of the ramparts is partly stocked with deer, and partly converted into an arena.

The pits where the bears are entertained at the public expense, are curiosities in their way, and may be considered as the Zoological Gardens of Bern. They were constructed in 1825, each in the form of a square, cased with solid masonry, and a partition wall between them, from which a fountain is so contrived as to fill a basin on either side, sufficiently capacious to admit of Sir Bruin's taking his pleasure in the bath. In the centre of these dens a pine-tree stem is erected, and renewed annually, on this the bear takes air and exercise, and practises a variety of gymnastics to the great amusement of the spectators who surround the iron balustrade, and thus approach the "consecrated savage" without apprehension. The "blessed bears of Bradwardine" were not held in more superstitious estimation than those of Bern, but at what period or from what circumstance they were first emblazoned on the patriotic standard † is a question that has been variously interpreted. Some trace its origin to Rene, duke of Lorraine, others think that it arose from the circumstance of a certain Gladiateur bringing home with him, from the battle of Novara, in 1510, two young bears as a trophy of victory.

The institution of Hofwyl, so universally appreciated by philanthropists, is within a short distance of Bern ‡. On this domain, in March 1799, M de

\* Since this account has not been so strictly observed, the pastoral flocks which have adopted the ancient practice as part of the exhibition.

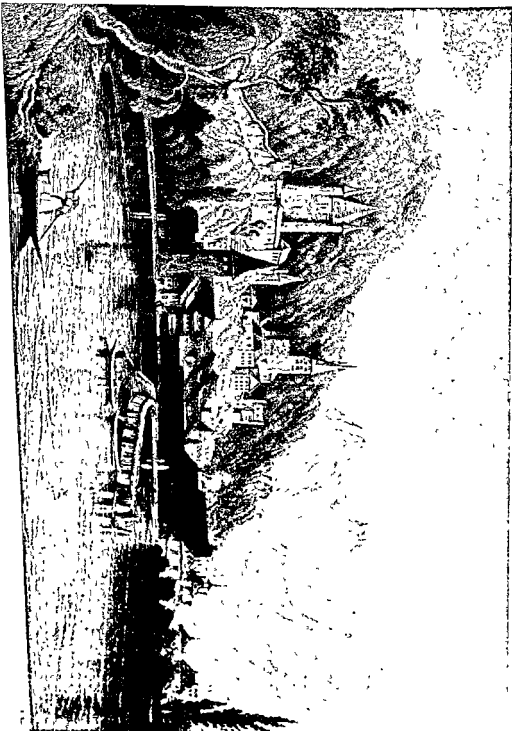
† La vedette du drapeau de Bern est formée de trois bandes de diverses couleurs : deux sur les côtés et une au milieu est jaune; sur ces bandes paraît un ours noir comme du charbon, armé de griffes rouges, et prêt à gagner honneur et renom. Cet ours a été donné de l'ours pour le pays. — *Included.*

‡ Taking the road to the Kappis, we pass a small fountain on the left turn on the great road, and after passing the second fountain continue to proceed between two beautiful banks of a small river. The whole way to Bern may be so through the magnificent forest of Bremgarten — about three hours' ride.

Fellenberg, a man eminently distinguished for genius, extensive acquirements, and the noblest qualities of the heart, commenced a series of agronomic experiments, which, after many sacrifices, have brought the various branches of rural economy to a degree of perfection previously unknown in Europe. The system, as embracing at the same time every facility for education, has attracted the approbation of every learned and philanthropic body in Europe. The institutions which it at present contains are two farms—one to serve as a model, and the other for the improvement of such discoveries as have been already made, and for carrying on a series of fresh experiments. Here are workshops for the construction of every species of agricultural implements, an institution devoted to the theory and practice of agriculture, and an establishment of education, where upwards of twenty professors give instruction in religion and morals, the ancient and modern languages, geography, history, mathematics, music, drawing, philosophy, chemistry, &c. A great number of youths—sons of distinguished families—from France, Germany, Russia, and England, are boarders in the establishment. What gives advantages to this establishment over most others destined for the purposes of education, is the absence of all the ordinary incentives to application. In the classes there is, literally, neither dux nor doct—neither prize nor punishment. The only means employed for securing diligence is by doubling the tasks during the hours of recreation. Great benefit has arisen from uniting as much as possible the labour of study with the amusement of society, and as much liberty in conversation as shall enable the pupil to acquire such ease of address and fund of information as may fit him for his introduction into active life. As a school of morals, nothing could be better adapted than the house of M. Fellenberg, where every thing is a model of order, elegant simplicity, and polished manners. The daily afflux of strangers from all countries is so great, and these mostly persons of distinguished rank or intellectual acquirements, that the young gentlemen under his care may be said to have become—and to have reaped many of the advantages of—travellers, long before they have quitted Hofwyl.\*

But what is deserving of still greater praise, is the School for Poor Children, also founded by M. de Fellenberg. In this M. Wehrli, the director, keeps a minute journal of every thing that regards the children individually from the first hour of their admission—their natural character and dispositions—their religious, moral, and intellectual progress—their application to study—their

\* An agricultural fete is celebrated here annually. In 1803 the school for practical farming was established under the auspices of the cantonal government. Similar establishments have since been effected by two colleges at Fribourg and Thurgovie.



monuments in existence. She is represented as "bursting the cerements of the tomb with one hand, and with the other holding up her infant son—or rather, as the sculptor poetically intended, the stone seems as if crumbling at the sound of the "last trumpet," and, awakened from the sleep of death, the joyful mother presents her babe to the glorious light of immortality.—So, when the vernal sun has arisen in its strength, the flower of the Alps sweetly emerges from beneath the snow, and, from the frozen earth, springs forth into fresh beauty and existence. The subject is full of poetry—but a poetry which speaks to every heart, and presents an affecting picture of those brittle links which death severs, but which immortality restores. It is a striking personification of death resigning his empire.

Lo truth love and mercy, in triumph descending  
And nature all glowing in Eden's first bloom  
On the cold cheek of death smiles and roses are blend  
And beauty immortal awakes from the tomb!"

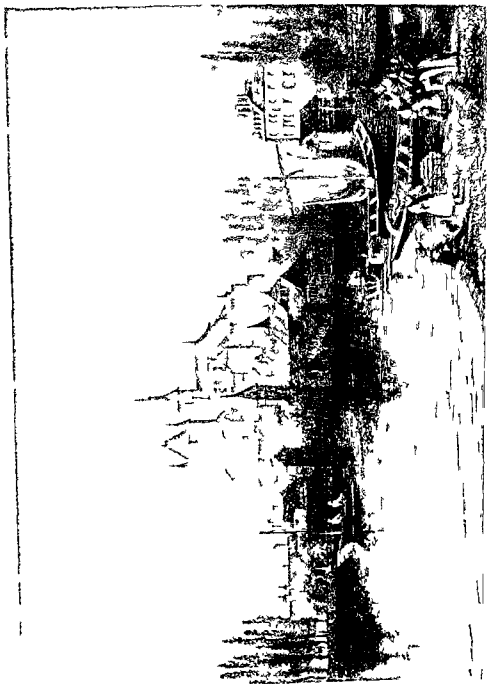
The gate of Thun may be considered that of the Oberland, a district which, in 1798, was elevated to the rank of canton—and again at the peace of 1814 annexed to Bern. It comprises the vast extent of valleys and mountains situated in the centre of Switzerland, and, abounding in excellent pasturage, supports its inhabitants chiefly by the breeding of cattle, and the produce of the dairy. It is divided into four principal valleys—the Simmenthal, Lauterbrunnen, Grindelwald, and Hasli, the waters of which, with their numerous tributaries, preserve a northern course, and fall into the lake of Thun—the scenery of which is so proverbial for its beauty. The northern shore presents a vast congeries of rugged mountains, while the opposite abounds in the most graceful and picturesque landscape. Thun, though greatly improved by recent buildings is small, and only remarkable when connected with the magnificent country of which it forms the capital. On the west, in the island formed by the two arms of the river, is the quarter of Bellin, traversed by a street called Roengarten. Each branch of the river is spanned by a bridge—one covered over, the other open, with two corresponding gates. A third gate opens to the road to Bern, a fourth, named the Lau gate, leads to the charming walks on the Grusberg, and a mass of rocks the result of an enormous elevation of mountains, whose ruins are still to be seen, though by the accumulated labour of centuries, covered with snow and collocated. The lake contains about two thousand inhabitants, but the population is doubled during the summer months by the influx of strangers, who,

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for some years past, have shewn a decided partiality for the banks of this lake, as a place where pleasure, study, and economy may be united. The terrace near the church commands a most interesting prospect—the great variety of the foreground with the lake and glaciers in the distance give it an inexpressible charm. The Pavilion of St James embraces a similar but more extended view, while the Bächen Hætzli surprises the spectator by the remarkable contrasts which it displays when observed from different vistas—opening and shutting as he varies his position, and including the sublime, unchanging aspect of the glaciers. But from no point is this view enjoyed in such perfection as from the entrance to a little grove, where a seat, inscribed with an appropriate motto—“*repose et jouis*”—embraces the general features as expressed in the following verses—

“ Avec leurs grands sommets leurs glaces éternel es,  
Par le soleil couchant, que les Alpes sont belles  
La verdure les eaux, les bois, les fleurs nouvelles,  
Tout dans leurs frais vallons sert à nous enchanter  
Heureux qui sur ces bords peut long temps se arrêter  
Heureux qui les reçoit si tôt et pu les quitter ”

On the borders of the lake to which it gives name, are the strikingly picturesque village of Spietz, and the ancient tower of Strattingen, from which sprung the founder of the second kingdom of Burgundy. According to popular tradition, this district long retained the characteristic name of the valley of gold and gladness\*—a title to which its beauty and fertility may still lay claim. The small church of St. Michael, on the margin of the lake, was called the Paradise, and higher up the bank, the château of Spietz bore the name of the Golden Court—circumstances which prove how highly these charming localities were appreciated by their feudal chiefs—Spietz is the last village which the road touches before it leaves the lake. All the houses are white, detached and each with its garden. On a gentle swell stand the church and parsonage house—the latter with a beautiful garden running forward into the lake, in the calm bosom of which mountains, meadows, woods, and orchards, are all pictured in beautiful reflection.—The village of Wimmis is no less beautiful.

The Simmenthal, on account of its vicinity to Thun and the state of its roads, generally practicable for cars is much frequented. It comprises a panorama of every variety from the wildest mountain features to the softest meadow scenery. Here the horrors of winter overhang the path, and there forests, harvest fields, and flower pastures, succeed each other in beautiful

\* See P. 100, 101, 102.

alternation It is, throughout, a delicious asylum, where not only the necessaries but the luxuries of life are produced in abundance, and where industry and contentment are seen in their happiest combinations The valley is watered through its whole extent by the Simmen, and presents an almost uninterrupted succession of verdure and fertility It is thickly interspersed with villages, where the appearance of the inhabitants is a sufficient guarantee for their internal prosperity, and although not more than thirteen leagues in length, by half a league in breadth, it has the air of an independent and well appointed republic In the villages, the manufacture of woollen cloths, and the less necessary distillation of cherries, occupy a considerable portion of the inhabitants, while the Alpine pastures, during the summer, give profitable occupation to the rest—The annual migration to the mountains is a scene of great vivacity, and it seems surprising that no painter, to our knowledge, has yet selected it as an original subject for the pencil About the end of May, the grand movement takes place The cattle appear instinctively to know the hour, and require little aid from their keepers to find the inviting pastures In their triumphant procession from stall to prairie, they often form a line of nearly a mile in length The patriarch of the herd, a noble Bernese bull, bearing round his neck a large bell, suspended by a richly ornamented leathern belt, leads the way Next succeed the finest cows, in pairs, and respectively distinguished by the size of their bells and decorations A long train of waggons, laden with the dairy apparatus—coppers for making cheese, stoves, beds, chairs, and tables, for the *chalets*, and a supply of provisions, form the centre brigade, which is closed by a motley troop of five or six score of cattle—all furnished with bells, which keep up a concert far more enlivening than the faintest bells of Einsiedeln The cattle, too, frisk and bellow in sheer rivalry or delight, the dogs bark—the goats bleat—the damsels sing—the matrons scold—the men smoke—the keepers whistle—and the whole colony, cattle and company, make their migration to the Alps a *fete* worth remembering—How many complaints incident to a city life might be cured by a short residence in a *chalet*! How many hypochondriacs of the Oberland, where the air itself is a nosegay, the coarse bread a banquet, and the simple whey of the Alps worth all the elixirs of the apothecary! But all this we say parenthetically—For the invalid who would purchase much enjoyment with gentle exercise, it would be difficult to point out a more delightful field than the Simmenthal The accommodation is always comfortable at the inns, and the pleasure of the tour may be had without incurring a single privation Of the pedestrian it may be said—







No sad vicissitudes his heart annoy  
 Blows not a zephyr but it whispers joy  
 For him lost flowers their idle sweets exhale  
 Ife tastes the meanest note that swells the gale  
 For him sad seats the cottage door adorn  
 And peeps the far-off sire—his evening bourn  
 Dear is the forest frown: o'er him is hail  
 And dear the green sward to his velvet tread  
 Moves there a cloud o'er midday's flaming eye?  
*Upward he looks and calls it 'luxury'*  
 Kind Nature's charities his steps attend,  
 In every babbling brook he finds a friend  
 While chastening thoughts of sweetest use beset  
 By wisdom moralize his pensive road

With this brief notice of the Simmenthal, we now return to the lake of Thun, and resuming the navigation of its waters, which is now, to the great detriment of the boatmen, performed by steam, new and striking objects are continually brought into view. On the left is the grotto of St. Beat, where those who do not shrink from the difficulties of a steep and rugged path, would do well to make a pilgrimage. The view from the entrance to this cavern is particularly rich and comprehensive. The grotto, according to the legend, was originally the retreat of a dragon—perhaps a bear—which the holy St. Beat expelled, and converted the lair into a sanctuary, where he communicated to the heathen tribes around him the first tidings of the gospel. It is divided into two distinct compartments, of which the lower, adorned with a carpet of ivy, is very curious. The rocks in several places are hollowed into recesses similar to chambers, and the greatest length of the cave is little short of seven hundred feet. It opens upon a wide natural reservoir, from which the Béatenbach takes its rise, and descending, exhibits a miniature, but picturesque cascade, of several feet in height.

Those who follow the northern bank of the lake will have many advantages over those who make the excursion in a boat, but the difficulty, and occasionally the danger, which may overtake the inexperienced tourist in a road which is often hewn out of the rock and subject to *éboulements*, have established a preference in favour of the oar. One of the most prominent objects on the left, as we approach the upper end of the lake, is the church of Beatenberg, but of difficult access.

Untersee, so charmingly situated between the lakes of Thun and Brienz, and bordering on the valleys of Lauterbrunnen, Grindelwald, and Hasli, presents a striking concentration of sublime and majestic scenery, but softened by the intermixture of features the most romantic and picturesque. The plain which

separates the two lakes is exceedingly fertile, and shaded by walnut-trees of such gigantic proportions as to remind one of the great chestnut on Mount Etna. A single tree, it is said, will furnish fifty fathoms of timber—a fact which gives the walnut groves of Interlaken and Untersee a precedence over every other in the Confederacy. It is from the walnut, subjected to the process of cold drawing, that the Swiss make their eating-oil. Though only a short league in extent, this plain is covered with a vegetation so rich and vivid, commands a panorama so wild and various, and presents such pictures of sedulous cultivation and primitive simplicity, that it has long enjoyed the distinctive epithet of an Alpine paradise. The climate withal is so mild, that in the end of February the meadows are sprinkled with flowers.

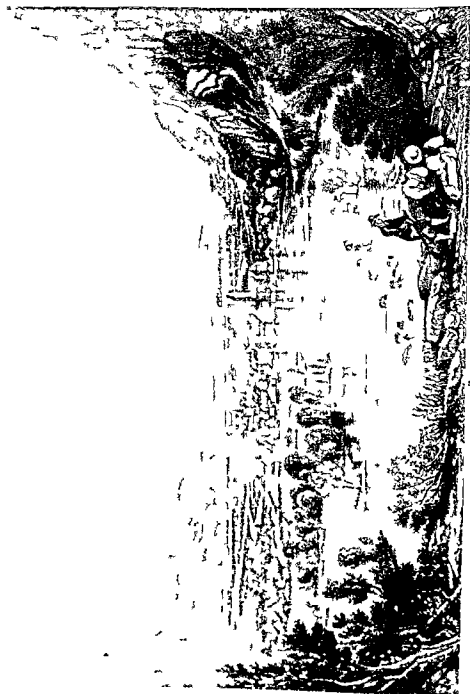
The mistress of the inn here is the celebrated Swiss beauty—"la belle Batelière"—in whom so many knights errant fancied they had discovered a second "Fornarina." She was long the ferry maid across the lake of Brienz, and with her boat, and oar, and blooming complexion, was a favourite subject in every traveller's portfolio. But now that she has exchanged her "thousand" admirers for one husband, and the management of a boat for her customers at the bar, her beauty has experienced a severe check, and, like a naiad transferred from her native wave, she is here "out of her element."\*

The château of Kien, and village of Kienholz, near the lake of Brienz, were formerly destroyed by a fall of the mountains. Thirty eight years ago, nearly forty houses in the village of Schwendi and Hochstelten were buried by a torrent of mud, which, discharging itself into the lake, continued to discolour the water for several months after. The mud torrent in Switzerland, and the lava-stream in Sicily, though of most opposite temperature, are very similar in their progress and equally destructive in their effects.

Interlaken is particularly advantageous as a centre from which the tourist may take the scenery of the Oberland in detail. As head quarters, nothing can be more agreeable, and so great is the number of strangers who here fix their summer residence, that, besides a large hotel, and fifteen or sixteen comfortable boarding houses, every year contributes something new in the way of accommodation. The average rate of board is five francs a day, and upwards of five hundred English tourists have been registered in the same week as temporary residents in the village and its vicinity. The steam boat which now plies on the lake has so much increased the facilities of travelling, that the concourse

\* Since the period referred to, the lady has exchanged the inn for a shop in the village which is much frequented by strangers.





of strangers during the last season was unprecedentedly great. The inn looks upon a charming promenade, shaded with noble trees, and at intervals commanding the most sublime scenery. The twin spires belonging to the ancient abbey and the church are fine landmarks, and in their day have brought many pilgrims to the sanctuary.

Here, and at Unterseen, strangers are now invariably entertained by native airs sung by peasant girls. Their voices being generally good, the several parts are sustained with due attention to concord, and with an effect of harmonious combination very creditable to the performers. Those which they performed, seemingly, with greatest spirit and fidelity—although in a style peculiar to themselves—were the hunting chorus in *Der Freischütz*, and the Tyrolese Song of Liberty—

“Our Alps are the altars of Freedom!—our valleys for Liberty’s shrine.” &c.

But this custom—for such it has now become—of admitting young women into public houses for the entertainment of strangers till midnight, is one of the many instances where the stranger’s gold has corrupted the native simplicity of the Swiss. Profit, however, when purchased by the sacrifice of decorum will never contribute to the intrinsic wealth of a state.

The pastoral fête celebrated here is of great antiquity, and supposed to take its origin from some remote heathen solemnity. The place chosen for the occasion is generally an elevated pasture, where, on the morning of the anniversary, a ring is formed by the village patriarchs who are to adjudge the prizes, and within this the wrestlers take their stand. Each having selected his antagonist from some one of the neighbouring villages, the struggle begins, while the fresh combatants who wait to be challenged, take alternately the places of those worsted in the game. Each combatant enters the lists with a feeling as if the credit of his family and country, no less than his own personal glory depended upon his single arm, and seldom, even in the games of Greece, was emulation more keenly excited, or the prize more vigorously contested. Before any wrestler can be declared the victor, he must have thrown his adversary twice fairly on his back. No blows are permitted in this trial of strength and it is but seldom that any single aspirant can support more than six turns. The two strongest decide the game by three rounds, which proclaim the victory. Dances and rural banquets follow, in which the fair spectators of the conflict give life and vivacity to the picture. The merriment continues often a great part of the night, and the dancers are furnished with shelter and refreshment by the booths which surround the festive field. It is recorded in one of these

pastoral fetes, that, whilst a victor and his partner were busily occupied in the dance, and the former too much engaged with the smiles of the fair Adelaide to note the fearful precipice at their side, on a sudden movement of the waltz the treacherous brink on which they trod gave way, and, followed by wild shrieks of despair, the unhappy lovers sank into the yawning chasm beneath. By some this catastrophe was believed to be a voluntary act—the desperate result of opposition to their union—but that is a mystery which the shrewdest of the survivors could not develop. It was a fact nevertheless, and might have been introduced as a new feature by Holbein into his “Dance of Death.”

It is always an object among those who visit Lauterbrunnen for the first time, to arrive between nine and ten o'clock, for at that time the Staubbach has the morning sun full upon it, and is more likely to make a lasting impression. To accomplish this three hours will suffice, but if the several objects by the way are to be glanced at, it is then necessary to set out from Interlaken at least two hours earlier.

The ancient Castle of Unspunnen, consisting of a square tower, with one of its angles rounded into a turret, commands the pass, but is hardly visible through the mass of brushwood with which it is masked. It is conjectured, that in the dungeons of this tower the inhabitants of Oberhasli were confined, after being taken prisoners at the battle of the Haslerig. It was the fortress of Berthold, the founder of Bern, in honour of whom a fete, such as we have described, is celebrated annually near this spot.

Proceeding on through Wilderschyl, a cheerful hamlet, but exhibiting in its population instances of that humiliating disease so peculiar to Alpine valleys, we enter the defile of the Lutschinen, where all that is most sublime and terrific in scenery is grouped, and concentrated in a way that defies description. It is a pass in which the wild and powerful genius of Salvator would have revelled in kindred gloom, but even his pencil, however magical in its delineations of the Abruzzi, would here have lost half its plastic influence, and left the great master of stern and savage landscape in despair. A glimpse of the Jungfrau and its glaciers contributes to the sublimity of the scene, and for a time monopolizes the spectator's attention. Their brilliant silver resting on the blue sky is particularly striking. The truly Alpine bridges which span the torrent at intervals are of such frail and perilous aspect, that the stranger shudders to think how such adventurous footing can be employed as the medium of social intercourse. But the chamois-footed maids of Interlaken tread as lightly on ruly fashioned planks—slung from bank to bank over the boiling



surge—as if they but passed from one chamber to another, and smile at what the stranger counts to be an enterprise—

“ As full of peril and adventurous spirit  
As to overwalk a current roaring loud  
On the unsteady foot of a spear!

Both the Lutschinen abound in the very finest trout. The fisher, armed with a trident, or spear with three prongs, stations himself on the edge of the torrent at a point where it is most impetuous, and there strikes the fish in their passage up or down the stream. This is certainly much more of a task than a pastime, for it requires the undivided attention of the fisher—and, with his eyes fixed on the rapid current for hours at a time, it is surprising that he does not in a fit of vertigo drop into the torrent. But habit has rendered him proof against danger so apparent, and there, like a statue on its pedestal, and in the attitude of a gladiator, he continues from hour to hour the patient “ *Pescator dell'onde* ”

Waterfalls, in various cadence, streak with foam the precipices to the left but the dash and thunder of their descent are lost in the deep roar of the torrent to which they hurry with unslackening tribute. The trunks of trees hewn in the mountains, and thence sent on a voyage to the plain, float down the torrent, stripped of their bark, and bearing every mark of a boisterous passage. At one point they are seen whirling round in a vortex—buffeted against the rocks—then, with the speed of lightning, shooting through the spray, and apparently lost. In this manner the timber for domestic purposes is transported to its destination, and a devastating torrent rendered subservient to the will of man.

Aloft, and as far as the eye can reach, casual glimpses of refreshing verdure relieve the savage sterility which overspreads the surrounding chaos. Rocks are suspended in critical balance over the path, and from their giddy verge the goat peers down like a suspicious sentinel upon the stranger's progress. Spring and winter are ever in immediate contact, and summer expands its arms to the very border of eternal snow. Chalets, whose roofs only appear to rise above the soil, are sprinkled along the acclivities, and mingle their picturesque features with the landscape. In these are housed the cattle and produce of the meadows, and there the summer is spent by the owners in all the simplicity of patriarchal life.

The only materials employed in the construction of these “ *castra stativa* ” as the chalets may be termed, are rudely fashioned trunks of pines cut in equal lengths pinned together, and the interstices often left as a free passage to the

air The roof is very flat, composed of a layer of pine deals, and retained in its position by transverse rafters, upon which are piled fragments of rock to act as ballast when assailed by high winds\* This precaution is universal in all places of similar elevation, where, unless so provided, the chalet, like a vessel breaking from her moorings, would literally drift before the wind. But the resistance which these seemingly frail habitations oppose to the "ouragans of the Alps is almost incredible—and the more so to those who have had personal evidence of their violence

Saussure, while prosecuting his researches in the Alps of Savoy, took shelter in one of the chalets on the Môle, just as one of these hurricanes began Every instant, so long as it lasted, he expected the chalet would have been carried away, for, although quite low, squatted on the earth, and its roof covered with masses of stone so as to oppose the least possible resistance to the wind, it often happens that the weather side of the sloping roof is lifted up by the storm and thrown completely over upon the other, in the same manner as by a breath we turn over the leaf of a book.

When the storm had partially subsided, Saussure wishing to judge for himself of its diminished force, although cautioned by the inmates against the experiment, withdrew the bar which confined the door In an instant it was blown open with such violence as to throw the philosopher completely off his balance, and pile up every article of furniture against the opposite wall Had this experiment been tried but a short time previously, the chalet and its lodgers would have made a very precipitate retreat. When such gusts suddenly overtake the cattle on pastures bordered with precipices, they are borne down by them as easily as an October blast on the plain hurries the dry leaves before it But if the storm comes on by degrees, and only reaches this pitch of violence after a certain space, the wary animals, fully sensible of their danger, turn their heads to leeward, and spreading out their fore legs with their hoofs edged firmly into the soil, ride out the storm like a ship at anchor From the moment it is assumed, nothing will induce them to change their position There they might be killed or injured without the power of forcing them to take one step from the spot where nature has instructed them to make their stand The chief thing to be attended to in these pastures is to prevent the cattle from being suddenly exposed to the storm, and with this view, when any symptom of an approaching tempest manifests itself, all the women and children run to drive the cattle from the precipices into the more retired pastures

In prosecuting our route along the left bank of the Irtschinen, Nature displays evidence of her working in the most awful forms. Rocks, suspended

in midway air, and bearing on their front the rude scars of remote convulsions, enclose the traveller on either side, while the path along which he moves appears cut by streams, shattered or obstructed by fallen rocks, and undermined by the frantic torrent at its base. Still, however, in her dreariest recess, the cheerful liveliness of spring scatters here and there the pleasing indications of her presence, and a green spot peering cautiously from the scene of devastation, proclaims, like the olive-branch of old, that there are yet life and hope in the world, and that the chaos around is gradually opening upon a scene reserved for the abode of man—a retreat where in safety he may survey the ruins of a past world, and in its wildest recess find an asylum for his reception. This asylum is the rock-bound valley of Lauterbrunnen.

As the vista opened upon this delicious solitude—delicious as succeeding at once to the dismal labyrinth through which we had pursued our way—and the morning sun shot his beams aslant the glaciers, the effect, both as regards the scene and ourselves, was almost magical. The wood, which threw its leafy screen betwixt us and the village, was not so dense as to mask its simple beauty, but here and there afforded an escape for its church, parsonage, and inn, and these, varying their position and aspect as we advanced, produced an effect in beautiful harmony with the scene. The rush of many waters fell in mingled chorus upon the ear, but so faint, and with so little of the audible character of “headlong floods,” that the sound had a tranquillizing rather than a startling effect. But where, then, was the Staubbach! whose precipice of nine hundred feet takes such easy precedence among the leaping torrents of Switzerland? The Staubbach was directly in front, falling like a volume of snow flakes—narrow at top, but widening and waving in its descent, and changing its transparent shower into the most brilliant hues as the sun pierced its fold, and there imprinted an iris sporting in the spray. Though a lofty it is almost a noiseless fall, and, like the foot of the eastern beauty, is white as snow, and falls as light.\*

While thus engaged, the undulating murmur of the Staubbach was seconded by the shrill whistle of some of its water, and the whole was interpreted to the traveller's meditation by a musical performance. When heard in the distance, and joined by the echoes, it was a romantic interlude, but on approaching nearer, it inflicted upon the ear a harsh melody. The sentiment of the melody, if we rightly interpret the German patois in which it was expressed, was a local subject—“Love in a cleft!”—

\* The snows are deposited—the sky is green.  
Where a narrow ledge breaks a cleft is a lovely scene.

and form the only harvest—though far from adequate to the wants of the inhabitants

Higher up the Lutschinen is the cascade of the Mirrenbach, falling over a precipice eight hundred feet in height, and forming another magnificent feature in the landscape. Not long since, a chamois-hunter in pursuit of game slipped his hold on this frightful verge, and was precipitated to the bottom, a mutilated corse. Of all pursuits to which the Alpine peasant devotes his time and ingenuity, that of the chamois hunter is attended with the greatest danger and fatigue. Few ever relinquish it, or die a natural death.

The whole valley of Lauterbrunnen affords abundant evidence of its sudden formation by some terrible convulsion which opened it as a *crevasse*. All the prominent and serrated edges correspond, and, if again closed, would enter into their original positions. The torrents which stripe it on all sides, also correspond, their course being merely interrupted by the chasm, and were the edges of the precipices brought into contact, the channels would be reunited, and the waters, instead of falling in cascades, would flow in continuous streams. The subject is interesting, and cannot fail to engage the traveller's observation, but as our space is limited, we can afford little more than a glance at the almost numberless objects which here solicit attention. What the author must omit, however, will be amply compensated by the truth and elaborate finish of the illustrations.

The passage of the Wengen-Alp into the Grindelwald is a most interesting portion of the tour. To those unaccustomed to estimate distances in the Alps, the Jungfrau appears as if immediately overhanging the path, and throwing every other object into obscurity by its vast and varied brightness, takes entire possession of the scene\*—a scene which justifies the following apostrophe—

All reckless thou beholdst the varying tide  
Of times and seasons—whether winter frown,  
Or spring or summer o'er the heavens preside,  
Yet still to thee—its naught!—still thou lookst at down  
Unchanged—unchangeable!—I, feeble and wide—  
And desolate—thou wear'st thine icy crown  
Where suns that scorch the wild pine at thy feet  
With moonlight radiance—cold and scatheless beat!

"Harmless o'er thee ten thousand suns have rolled—  
Wild cataracts from thy girdle burst their way!  
Yet still within thy frozen mantle-fold  
Stern winter reigns with an eternal sway—"

\* The points of view chosen by Mr. Bartlett for this stupendous scene are peculiarly happy. The near view of the Jungfrau, with the well-known scene from "Manfred," is eminently successful.

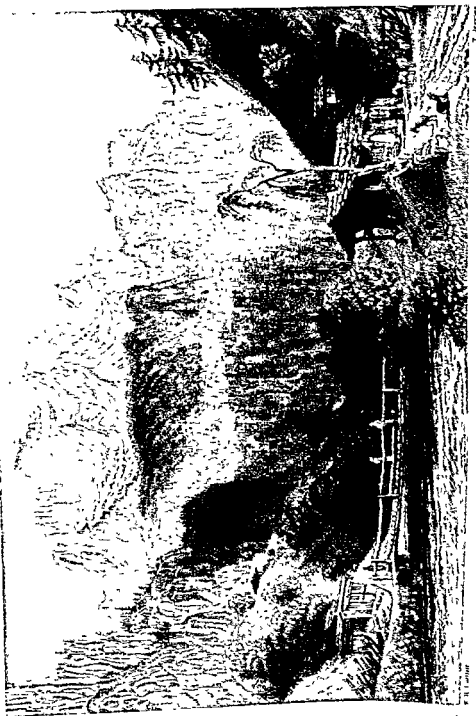
Far up the welkin shoot thy summits bold  
 And far below thou seest the lightnings play—  
 Hear at the dread thunder bellowing round thy base  
 And see at the while with glorious sunshine on thy face —*MS*

At one of the chalets near the highest point of the passage it is customary to halt for rest and refreshment, and from this point, with the summit of the Silver horn directly opposite, the Jungfrau is seen in all its sublimity

Its solitary summit, robed in vestal white  
 Inviolate soars

The spirit of Alpine adventure, however, has carried at least one hunter to the summit, so that, literally, the Jungfrau is no longer a virgin mountain—the “Dian of the waste.” At short intervals, the stillness of the atmosphere is convulsed by sounds like the boom of distant artillery, but occasionally harsher as they seem to approach, and then terminate in a crash which startles the echoes, and is prolonged in various undulating murmurs among the recesses and chasms of the mountain. Directing the eye towards the point whence the sound seems to proceed, we perceive a moving mass resembling the foam of a suddenly discharged cataract. A cloud of snowy spray marks the line and impetuosity of its course, and, as it dashes downward with the speed of lightning, and sweeps every obstacle before it, pyramids of silvery dust and vapour soar here and there from its channel like sparkling exhalations. These succeed one another wherever the shock and struggle between the descending body and the rocks in its course has been most formidable. In estimating the rapidity with which these snowy thunderbolts descend, we might fancy the next minute would involve us in their destruction. But, like the sea, they too “have bounds which they cannot pass, and in the moment of their utmost fury are laid quietly to rest in some intervening gulf, where, changing their form, and laying aside their terrors, they are silently converted into fertilizing streams.

It may be superfluous to state that the phenomena here noticed are the result of summer avalanches. The spectacle is generally periodical, and discovers itself from about noon till three o'clock, during which period the sun is in its full strength, and loosening their “frozen bonds,” launches the accumulated snows in successive explosions. It is a voice which in these awful solitudes is truly sublime, and awakens an impression not to be described, but never to be forgotten. At midnight, when the stars alone keep watch on the mountain tops, and silence holds uninterrupted possession of the scene, its desolation aided by darkness, acquires tenfold intensity, and fills the spectator's mind with the most thrilling emotions.



‘ All heaven and earth are still—though not in sleep  
 But breathless as we grow when feeling most,  
 And so lent, as we stand in thoughts too deep  
 For utterance ’

We were welcomed to the valley of Grindelwald by the warbling of two Alpine muses—a strain as wild in modulation as the character of the scenery through which it circulated, and very appropriate to the place.

The glaciers of Grindelwald have been often described, but the subject is one to which no description in words, or even in painting, can do adequate justice. We have nothing wherewith to compare the scene, so as to give it that vivid colouring by which those who have not had ocular demonstration may recognise its wild phenomena. We refer to our former account of the glaciers of Chamouni, in the first volume of this work.

From the windows of the inn the eye wanders over the more striking features of the scene below, the torrent descends with thundering precipitation from its source in the icy cavern, the opening to which forms a magnificent arch of seventy feet in height. Above, the glacier split into towers and pinnacles and sparkling with the sun, merges its sea green ramparts in a wilderness of everlasting snows. The pinnacles, so well known under the name of horns or *aiguilles*, present an appearance the most unprecedented to the eye and mind of a stranger. One of these, a stupendous obelisk, shooting its precipitous and tapering form to nearly twelve thousand feet, fringed at its base with forests, and encrusted with snow, exerts a sort of fascination over the senses, and holds the spectator for a time in mute and breathless contemplation.

With all its splendid features, however, the valley of Grindelwald is not “the happy valley” which the “*Minnesingers*” of the Alps have depicted it. The rigour of winter lasts full seven months, so that the agricultural pursuits, so necessary to the welfare of the inhabitants, are impeded, and their spring, summer, and autumn, are confined to the short interval of five months. The valley, though considerably wider than that of *Lauterbrunnen*, is still too limited in extent and produce for the number of its inhabitants. The dairy forms their chief dependence, for the liberal “mother of harvests,” and the god of the vintage, are alike strangers in the place. Without these two important divinities, it has been said love will find few votaries, but here—“*sine Cerere et Libero*”—the Paphian goddess, nevertheless, has her devotees and her temple even among the snows. To visit his mistress of a “Saturday night” a youth of Grindelwald (or in any part of the Oberland Bernois) will encounter all the perils of an Alpine sky—torrent, storm, and avalanche, and thread his





way to the favoured chalet as unerringly as if he carried a compass, and moved along one of Macadam's best roads. These stolen interviews are concerted much in the same manner as in Scotland. The fair one, as soon as the rest of the family are sleepily disposed of, prepares a cheerful reception for her lover, whose arrival is announced by a gentle serenade of—

Oh! are ye sleep'n Maggy?

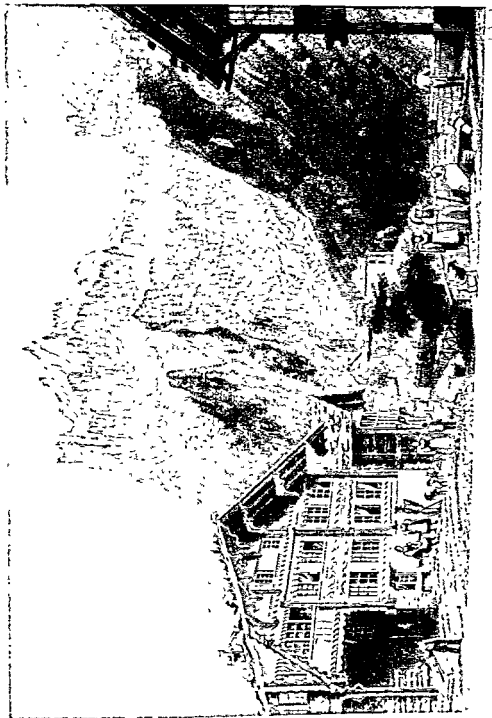
Let me in for loud the w'n is roar'n o'er yon warlock cra'gy!

The question, of course, is answered by a gentle whisper that the old folks are all as they should be—suspecting nothing, or fast asleep, and then, stepping to the long wooden gallery—

She open'd the door she loot h'm in the coost as de h's dripp'ng pla'd e—

Now blaw your warst ye ra'n and w'n! for now I'm in aside my Maggy •

But, without evincing any impertinent curiosity in prosecuting the subject, let us now paint the happy lovers seated by a blazing log of pine tree, a dish of roasted chamois and rye bread on the table, rich cream, with the very flavour of the flowers on which the cows were fed—cheese that speaks for itself, and is recommended strongly to the palate by its ripe odour, and to close the banquet a glass of that precious nectar of the Alps, Kirschwasser, or gentian whiskey, to which the youth is invited by many gentle arguments, as an antidote to the cold and fatigue encountered in his journey. She drinks to him with a maiden's welcome—he pledges the cup, and this done, feels that he can descant on love with the eloquence of a senator. With what rapture does she listen as he lays down the plan of their future life, and presses her to name the day when she will consent to light his chalet with her smiles! The question adds at once to her beauty and embarrassment—it is ingeniously evaded, but in a manner that adds to her lover's importunity. She hesitates—but at last her scruples are overcome. The day and hour are named—a thousand anticipations of happy years flush the cheek and flutter round the heart of the Alpine maid. Their thoughts are too big for utterance, and they sit looking into each other's face—so lent and happy. But the night wind howls dully through the wide gallery, and the waning of the stars shows that the parting moment has arrived. Torrents must be forded—forests traversed—snowy ramparts surmounted, and



it is indeed time to go—love must give place to the stern law of necessity' They have parted, and with the speed of the bouquetin, the Alpine lover retraces his steps, while the newly betrothed follows his shadow as he fleets along the snow, with feelings which at once delight and distract her spirit. But why distrust? the sky is cloudless, and although the wind sweeps howlingly through the gorge, the hurricane is far off, and she at length retires to press that pillow which her present thoughts have rendered too delicious for the vulgar enjoyment of sleep—As the first breath of day pervaded the green pastures, a piercing shriek escaped her lips, and brought her mother anxiously to her bed-side—for when is a mother deaf to the voice of her child? "It was nothing," she said—"a mere phantom which had crossed her dream." But it was a phantom that had changed her look and complexion, and her hand shook convulsively as she raised it to wipe off the cold dew that had started suddenly to her forehead.—We need only add, that at that hour a landslip on the Lutschinen overwhelmed the narrow valley while her lover passed, and with its ruins combined that of as true a heart as was ever pledged to woman in the valley of Grindelwald.

Among numerous examples of the dangers by which the inhabitants of these regions are beset, even in the occupations of daily life, the following fact may be recorded. Christopher Bohren, the inn keeper at Grindelwald, having occasion to cross the glacier situated between the Wetterhorn and Mettenberg, was considerably advanced on his way, when the ice beneath him suddenly breaking, he was plunged to a depth of sixty four feet. With his arm broken, and wrist dislocated by the fall, he had still sufficient presence of mind to make some exertion for his preservation. Stunned, and half frozen, he groped about him, and in the bottom of his icy prison discovered a tunnel through which the melted waters of the glacier had forced an outlet. Insinuating himself into this canal, he advanced painfully, and despairing of ever again beholding the light. The warmth of life was fast yielding to the deadly chill of the cavern in which, to all appearance, he was doomed to perish. Every step he advanced on his knees and elbow, (for of the latter he had but one left,) threw a keener pang into his heart, and the mingled gurgling, rushing, and tinkling sound of the deeply channelled waters, sounded in his ear like a horrid dirge that pronounced his wife a widow, and his children fatherless! This very thought, however, was probably the cause of his redoubled exertion, and made the agony of fear the beginning of hope, for when he had crawled along the icy current for about twenty fathoms, he suddenly emerged into the light of day. The torrent had there its issue, and the capture, following its direction, was



speedily restored to the world, and lived many years after to narrate the circumstances of his miraculous escape.\*

Following the left margin of the Reichenbach, we come to those celebrated falls, which so completely fix the stranger's attention as to form almost the principal object of the tour, and amply repay him for any fatigue he may have encountered by the way. Of these tremendous features, however, Mr. Bartlett has given so vivid and correct a representation, that very little description will suffice. All who have witnessed the natural picture will at once recognise and applaud the force and fidelity of the mimic pencil; while those who have not "stood upon the perilous verge," will form an accurate conception of its wild magnificence from the delineations before them. The great body of water which is here hurled foaming and howling from the precipice, is furnished by the Scheideck, Rosenlauri, and the Schwartzwald, and rushes through a rocky gorge of the Swirgi. The first stage exhibits a fall in profile, and about a hundred feet in height; the second and more stupendous of the two superior falls, presents a breadth of about thirty feet, and plunges by a single bound of four hundred feet into the boiling cauldron at its base. Around the shattered precipices—

"Trees and shrubs, in wild disorder, fringe the gulf's horrific border,  
While, ceaseless from the dread 'profound,' breezes waft the dismal sound."

From the small *belvédère*, erected for this purpose, the fall is observed in all its stages—from the wave-worn precipice, where it makes its first trial of strength, to the next appalling shock, where the wide volume is dissipated in snow and spray—crushing the rock in its descent—filling the ear with the roar of its agony—and the mind with images of horror and destruction. It is on this point that all who would feel, as well as contemplate, the sublimity of the scene, should take their stand; and—

"There watch the 'hell of waters' under—swift as light and loud as thunder!"

\* The following is an occurrence still lamented by many living. On the 31st of August, 1831, M. Mouron, a Protestant clergyman from near Lausanne, was lost in one of those icy gulfs which open at intervals among the glaciers. This sudden and awful catastrophe took place in presence of the guide who accompanied him. He had only arrived in Grindelwald the preceding night, and the next morning set out on a survey of the sea of ice. Perceiving one of the openings alluded to, his curiosity was thereby attracted, and he approached the brink; but that he might look down into it with safety, he struck the spike end of his pole into the ice, and leaned forward upon its head. In an instant the spike, propelled by the additional weight, penetrated the ice, or slid forward, and Mouron, losing his balance, precipitated into the chasm, nearly eight hundred feet deep. Three attempts were made to recover the fallen one, but he did not survive the descent: but who can imagine the horror of that moment when he felt the precipitous way—or the agony that may have been crowded into the brief space between the brink and the alarm! His body was interred in the village church-yard, and a marble slab, inscribed with a simple and affecting epitaph, there records the melancholy event.

To witness the last fall, it is necessary to pass through the meadows, and crossing a small bridge, take our stand opposite the foaming precipice, where, after pursuing its headlong course for about three hundred yards, the river achieves the last scene in this splendid exhibition

There lover of the Alpine storm, the raven shews her sable form  
And there the lammergeyer lone o'erlooks that foaming Phlegethon !  
Whose sleepless vortex smokes and aethers and clothes the rocks with tortured wreaths  
Of an eternal tempest.

\* The Valley of Meyringhen—or more properly that of Hasli, of which Meyringhen is the capital—comprises an extent of five leagues or upwards, and boasts of a population whose appearance and character are essentially different from those of their neighbours. A tradition exists similar to that alluded to in our account of Schwytz, which describes the original colony as of Swedish origin. This tradition is further strengthened by a supposed affinity between the two languages, and by the physical and moral distinctions to which they lay claim. That they are of foreign descent, and not aborigines, is rendered more than probable from various concurring testimony. The men of Hasli are a singularly fine race, and in stature, expression, and deportment, have not degenerated from their heroic ancestry. They maintain a high credit among the surrounding cantons for the masculine virtues, patriotism, courage, honour, and intrepidity, as well as the more domestic qualities of candour, benevolence, and those requisites which form the great bond of good citizenship. The women no less distinguished than their lords, have a traditional costume to which they still attach importance, and in many instances present a figure and physiognomy which a painter might delight to copy. They are not, like the women of other valleys, exposed to severe labour in the fields, or to the drudgery of a domestic bondage. They are very attentive to the art of the toilette, and preserve their freshness of complexion and elegance of form to a late period of life. One of the most interesting fêtes celebrated in the valley, is the examination of the schools, and distribution of prizes under the direction of the prefect and pastor. In proof of the salubrity of the climate and their own natural sobriety, it may be stated, that they have neither physicians nor surgeons nor accoucheurs—any one of whom might here as well look for the philosopher's stone as professional remuneration. During the eight years immediately preceding 1816 and in the parish of Meyringhen alone, eighteen men and thirty five women died at the age of eighty and upwards, one man at ninety three, another at ninety four, three women at ninety and ninety five, forty five men and forty three women

between the ages of seventy and eighty. For the last thirty years the population has increased so much, as to exhaust the natural resources of the valley, and induce a necessity for emigration. The plague, which in former times committed great ravages in the Hasli, has not appeared since 1669, when upwards of twelve hundred persons fell victims to it in the parish of Meyringhen alone. In a population of six thousand, according to the census of 1816, ten individuals were returned as possessing fortunes of forty thousand livres and upwards, and more than twenty with thirty thousand, but with these exceptions, the inhabitants were suffering great privations, and the majority compelled, during the severe winter, to exist on potatoes almost exclusively, and often without even the humble luxury of salt. Formerly, it appears, they enjoyed a greater immunity from the natural scourges of their position, and lived in comparatively easy circumstances, but since then, repeated inundations of the Aar,\* and other torrents, discharging themselves into this "valley of streams, have occasioned so many losses, and so many fresh demands upon the labour of the community, that to these causes the greater part of the straitened circumstances complained of may be attributed †

The Griesbach, to which we now retrace our steps, is certainly one of the finest cascades in the Oberland, and by some, indeed, preferred to the greater fall of the Reichenbach. The worthy and well informed individual, the organist of Brientz, who resides here during the summer months, is an additional attraction to the picturesque traveller. He has two daughters, and two or three sons, whose musical talents he has so far perfected by judicious cultivation, as to form out of his own family a chorus of excellent singers. We entered his neat cottage, built so as to command fine views of the cascade, and after waiting a short time, were welcomed by its owner with great natural politeness, and an expression of benevolence and cheerful contentment, which are seldom observed but where worldly ambition has been held in check by the habitual exercise of the gentler passions. Having been informed of our arrival by one of his children, he had left his laborious occupation of cutting wood in order to con-

\* To check the growing calamity a massive embankment consisting of a wall twelve feet high by nearly eight in breadth was constructed at vast labour and expense in 1743 and repaired again in 1822. The mound affords many good points where the tourist may enjoy a full prospect of the valley.

† The valley is divided into three parishes viz.—Meyringhen, Gadmen and Guttanen united under the administration of a *préfet* named by Bern and elected by the inhabitants of Hasli. The first of these parishes contained at the close of the war nearly five thousand inhabitants, who have greatly increased since then. The number of chalets with dairies is estimated at nearly two hundred, each of which, on an average produces annually about twenty quintals of cheese bringing a return of nine thousand Swiss livres. The exports besides, are chamois skins, fox skins &c; the imports, wheat, wine and cloth manufactures &c.

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annually resorted to by invalids. The more prominent in this extensive catalogue are the baths of Leissigen, Weissembourg, Blumenstein, Gurnighel, Langenau—the sulphur baths near Frutigen, Sommerhaus, Thalgut, and many others, with their lists of “authenticated cures.” No district of Switzerland can open a finer field for the researches of the natural philosopher than Bern. Its riches in the animal,\* vegetable, and mineral kingdoms, have been celebrated by many illustrious *savants*—among whom we need only mention the great Haller. Agriculture is every where held in honour, and large capitals annually disbursed for its improvement. The establishment at Hofwyl, already described, has done much by its practical lessons, while the government has been a liberal patron to every measure calculated to extend this great national resource.

The Emmenthal, one of the most fertile districts in Switzerland, and the garden of this canton, is peculiarly interesting on account of its high state of cultivation, the variety and abundance of its produce, and the activity of its manufactures. It is not less so on account of its many natural curiosities, and the rich field of speculation which it throws open to the geologist. Of the vast rubbish accumulated by the torrents of ages in the Emmenthal, the greater portion is calcareous—various kinds of marble, granite, porphyry, serpentine, verd antique, jasper, amygdalite, or variolite, but of the latter no uniform masses have yet been discovered in the Swiss Alps. The gold sand brought down by the waters of the Emme, proceeds probably, from the violent and continual friction of certain stones in the bed of the channel during the summer torrents. The inhabitants of this favoured valley are distinguished for industry and intelligence, and enjoy every moral advantage in the establishment of excellent schools and conscientious pastors.

The mountains of the canton contain many rich veins of metal, but the expenses of working them are so great, that with the exception of the iron mines in the old Diocese of Basle, they are but rarely used. The commerce of this canton consists chiefly in the exportation of horses, horned cattle, and cheese, with a considerable quantity of *Kirschenwasser*, made in the pastoral valleys. The commerce of transit, as it is termed, occupies many hands. The imports consist of wine, salt, manufactured goods, and colonial wares. In

\* Several wild animals which in former times abounded in the woods and mountains—such as the chamois, the bear, the wild boar, the roe buck, and especially the bouquetin are now but rarely to be seen in their ancient haunts. Wolves however are still found in the mountains, and continue the ravages during the winter among the inhabitants. Foxes are numerous—a proof of which, about three thousand are killed annually. Game is abundant—*haras, coq-de-bruyère* and many other kinds. The herds and flocks of the canton are proverbially numerous, and still increasing.

respect to home manufactures, this canton cannot be compared with several others which enjoy fewer advantages by nature

The Protestant religion is the form established by law. All the *bourgeois* of the canton are alike eligible to offices of trust in the state, and every male between the ages of sixteen and fifty is liable to military service. Two *argoyers* preside alternately, and during one year, at the great and lesser council. The first of these assemblies meets regularly twice a year, and also on the first Monday of every month, or as often as state affairs may require. No motion can be carried into effect till after its sanction by the lesser council, which is charged with the ordinary business of the republic. The business of the state is divided into five distinct departments—a privy council, for the direction of the federal and diplomatic affairs, and the maintenance of public security at home and abroad—councils of finance—of justice and police—of ecclesiastical affairs and education—and a council of war. Every parish has a “tribunal d’expedition,” the president of which, in quality of Stadthalter, is the first public functionary in the parish. In addition to the above, the reformed parishes have what is called a “matrimonial tribunal,” for the decision of domestic questions in the mutual relations of husband and wife, and parents and children.

In 1795, the established clergy, comprising ecclesiastical professors and candidates for the holy ministry, amounted to five hundred and sixty individuals. The best church livings yielded about three hundred louis-d’or, and the others fifty or sixty per annum. At present, the canton is divided into one hundred and seventy-six Protestant parishes, and fourteen chaplaincies, distributed into the six classes of Buren, Burgdorf, Langenthal, Thun, Nidau, and Bienne. The Catholic portion of the inhabitants, chiefly of the old bishopric of Basle, are subject to that see\*. In 1795, the public revenue amounted to one million five hundred thousand Swiss livres. It is worth mention that savings-banks have become very general throughout the canton. The population in 1828, was three hundred and fifty thousand. The last military contingent was fixed at five thousand eight hundred and twenty four in men, and ninety-one thousand six hundred and ninety four Swiss livres in money.

\* The town of Bern celebrated the jubilee of the Reformation with great solemnity in 1875. Men were struck on the occasion; and a great concourse from all the Protestant cantons contributed to render the spectacle one of the most imposing ever witnessed in Switzerland, if we except, probably, the Jubilee which took place at Geneva in August last, 1854.

## LUCERN AND UNTERWALDEN

High o'er Unterwalden's vale where the forest frosts the morn—  
 Whence the boundless eye may sail o'er a sea of mountains borne  
 From the dead our spirits rose—to the dead they soon returned  
 Bright on its eternal close Unterwalden's glory burned! —JAMES MONTGOMERY

THE Valley of Entlibuch, through which we approach the ancient capital of Lucern, is composed of several lateral branches, and inhabited by a race of people distinct in many respects from their neighbours, but remarkable for their fine stature, natural vivacity, and love of independence. They are fond of music and the dance, and famous in those gymnastic exercises to which we lately adverted. On the first Monday in Lent, the village minstrels sing or recite a variety of ballads, into which every amusing or ludicrous event of the preceding year is grotesquely introduced. The custom is very ancient, and is no bad vehicle of morality as well as mirth. These rural bards are the satirists as well as eulogists of the valleys, and resemble in the exercise of their function the early founders of ancient comedy, who, while exciting the laughter of their audience, conveyed an important lesson.

The village of Schupfheim is celebrated for its Capuchin monastery and church on the height—the latter is nearly new, and on an extensive scale. An ancient tower contains the archives of the country. Entlibuch, at the junction of the Entle and the Emme, with its elegant temple, offers abundant proofs of industrious habits, rigid economy, and all those comforts to which their primitive notions attach any real value. In a meadow near the village, on the first Sunday of autumn, a great gymnastic fête is celebrated in honour of the patron saint.

In Entlibuch, seven days are devoted annually to these trials of strength—each day on new ground, either in the valley or on the surrounding heights. To these games all the neighbouring population is invited, including Unterwald, Natch, and the Immenthal. A crowd of spectators, such as we have already described, encircle the arena, and evince the most lively interest in the struggle. The laws, of immemorial enactment, are religiously observed, and he who comes off victorious, is ever after held in the highest honour among his country-

men The most remarkable of these champions, was John Vogel of Hasli, surnamed the "Invincible" He carried off the palm in his eighteenth year, and never, during the space of thirty years, found either his master or his equal At the end of this long career, he reposed upon his laurels, and left the ring and its glory to younger men

As we advance, the scene softens, expands, and presents an infinity of rich and variegated landscape—Vestiges of feudal sway, crowned by the monuments of freedom—a fertile land, a healthy population, and the pleasing indications of extended trade and increasing prosperity, meet us at every turn

History affords us little insight as to the antiquity of Lucern Its origin is still a subject of conjecture among the learned, although generally admitted to owe its name to the Latin synonyme of *Lucerna*—a sort of *Pharos* by which, in remote times, the boatmen on the lake were enabled to direct their course About the end of the seventh century, a chief of the country, named Wickhard, founded a convent on the neighbouring height, around which a town gradually sprang up, and, from the local circumstance above stated, took the name of Lucern The convent and town were afterwards presented by Pepin le Bref to the abbots of Murbach, in Alsace, by whom they were sold at the end of the thirteenth century to the house of Hapsburg, already conspicuous in the political horizon of the country In the early part of the next century, however, the rigours of Austrian domination became so insupportable, that the inhabitants of Lucern, by entering into a political compact with the three first cantons laid the foundation of that independence, which, after long wars and much waste of life, was happily secured to their posterity But scarcely had they tasted the first fruits of their new liberty, when a conspiracy, known in history as the *mord nacht*, or murder night, threatened once more to rivet their chains and reinstate the discarded chief

The principal families in the town, while professing an outward love of freedom, were secretly laying plans for its destruction When these had arrived at full maturity, they fixed a night for the final execution of their murderous design, in which all the influential friends of liberty were to have been cut off Providence, however, prepared a different result, by which the dagger of the assassins was turned against their own breast As the appointed night closed in, the leaders of the plot, having secretly armed issued from their different homes and assembled in a cave near the margin of the lake, and under the club-room frequented by the incorporated trade of tailors Here the apparent security of the place rendering them less cautious in concerning the first steps of their proceeding, they were overheard by a boy, who happened to be passing by at

the time, and stopped to listen. The lad was soon detected, and would have been instantly put to death, had not the alternative offered of making him solemnly swear never to reveal to mortal ear what he had there seen or heard.

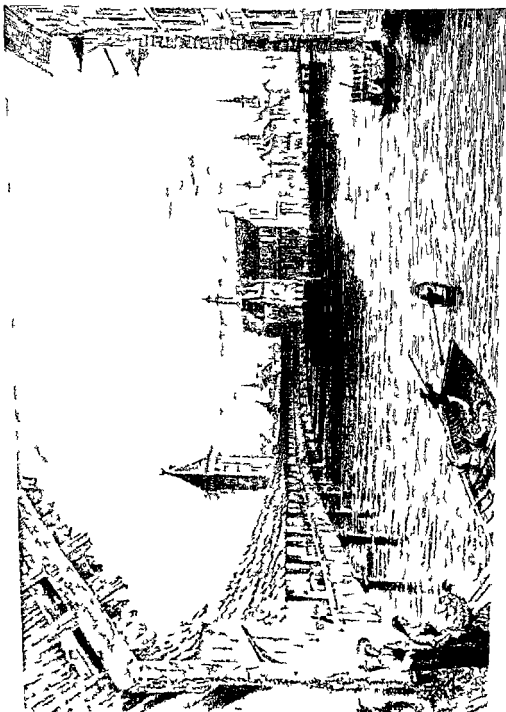
The youth, thus dismissed, but alarmed at the mysterious aspect of these men—the arms which they wore, and the words that escaped them—entered a room belonging to the fraternity of butchers, where several of the townsmen were still drinking and playing. He hesitated for some time, till, recollecting that the oath by which he was bound was, that he should never reveal what he had seen or heard to “mortal ear,” he turned himself round, and addressing the stove in the room, detailed every circumstance of what he had seen and heard. Horror struck at the recital, the facts were instantly communicated by those present to their companions, and rushing with an armed force to the spot, they seized the conspirators, invoked the help of Unterwalden, and at length excluding the higher aristocracy from every share in the councils, expelled them from the city they had formerly governed.

The victory of Sempach, to which the Lucerners contributed so effectually in 1386, gave stability to their independence. In thirty years more they took entire possession of the territory which now forms the canton, and in 1479, bought up all the feudal rights which the canons of St. Leger—the convent already mentioned—had previously exercised over the citizens. From that period the government passed, by slow degrees, into the hands of a few patrician families, and the rural districts, with their inhabitants, became subject to the town. This oligarchy, against which the citizens revolted in 1761, continued in force till the close of the eighteenth century.

On the thirty first of January, 1798, before any other of the confederate states had adopted a similar step, the government of Lucern made the voluntary proposition to establish a new constitution based on the equality of political rights. Very shortly after this, Lucern accepted the new constitution drawn up by the French republic, and forced upon the united cantons. On the thirtieth of April, the territory was entered by the military force of the small cantons, and the following day a detachment of French troops took possession of the town, which was laid under heavy contributions, and compelled to defray all the expenses of the war.

“On the princely towers of Bern fell the Gall’s thunder stroke;  
To the lake of Lucern, all submitted to the yoke.”

In September of the same year, Lucern became the seat of the new Helvetic government, by which great expenses were incurred. Twice, at a later period



of that eventful crisis, Lucern was inundated with French troops, and formed one of the central points where the civil war raged with such violence in 1602, and occasioned so many unheard of sacrifices. At length, in 1813, Lucern, like the rest of the Confederacy, reaped the benefit of the great political changes at that period achieved, and returned without agitation to its former condition.

The sovereign power resides in a Daily Council of thirty-six members, and in another of sixty-four, with an *aroyer* at their head, who are elected for life, and the government, composed of these two councils, is styled, "The Aroyer and Council-of-Hundred of the town and republic of Lucern." The Council of Hundred meets regularly three times a year, or oftener, as the Daily Council may require. The established religion is the Catholic, subject in ecclesiastical matters to the see of Basle and Soleure. The monastic establishments are numerous, that of St Urban was founded in 1148. The knights of Malta have a chapter at Hohenrein, and at Reiden, and latterly the Protestants have been allowed a church and pastor in the town, which is the residence of the Pope's nuncio. It is worth notice that, in the convent of Beromunsh, near Lucern, Elias de Lauffen established a printing press in 1470, the first known in Switzerland. Here Ulric Gering, attached to the convent, learned the mysterious art, and afterwards proceeded to Paris, where he exercised his talent from 1472 to 1510. For a long time he made a secret of his art: the first books printed in France issued from his press.

The town of Lucern, built where the impetuous Reuss issues from the lake, is highly picturesque, and contains several remarkable edifices—among which may be mentioned the ancient Town house, the Cathedral, the Church of the Jesuits, the Arsenal, Theatre, Lyceum, and the great Hospital. The cathedral boasts a very precious horde of relics, and besides several paintings by good masters, has a splendid organ containing little short of three thousand pipes: some of them thirty-seven feet high. But the three bridges, built for the convenience of pedestrians, are, perhaps the greatest curiosities to a stranger. The Hofbrücke, thirteen hundred and eighty feet in length, is considered the most striking in Switzerland, as to extent and appearance, and is covered with illustrations of sacred history. Another comprises all the important events from the first dawn of liberty downwards, faithfully represented in oil-colours, and tending to keep alive among the youth a knowledge of their heroic annals, and a spirit of independence. A third bridge is embellished with pictures from Holbein's Dance-of-Death, and a fourth, apparently of great antiquity and uncovered. Near the centre of the second bridge, consecrated to the exploits of native



history, is an ancient tower, called the Wasser-thurm, and, like that at Zurich, used formerly perhaps as a prison.

The town is surrounded by charming walks, which command every variety of alpine landscape, while the lake, expanding before it like a mirror, is an object of which the eye is never weary. Boats on the margin, in the offing, and just in sight—each with its merchandize or party of pleasure—give beauty and animation to its glassy surface, where, like the “swans in St Mary’s lake,” each boat floats double—boat and shadow. The Reuss as it quits the lake, at torrent-speed and in great volume, shows its waters of a bright limpid green. All the rivers where they empty themselves into the Swiss lakes—more particularly the Rhone and the Rhine—are less or more discoloured, while the lakes themselves are perfectly transparent. The Rhone, on leaving the lake of Geneva, is of a deep blue tint—the Rhine, as it quits the lake of Constance, of a deeper green—while the Aar and the Limmat, as they issue from the lakes of Thun and Zurich, are nearly colourless.

The market of Lucern is one of the largest in Switzerland, as it is meant to supply the pastoral cantons of Uri and Unterwalden with wheat, rye, barley, and oats, which are readily bought up and transported in boats across the lake to Fluelen. The canton, however, does little more than raise corn sufficient for home consumption, but it is amply supplied from the granaries of Argau. The fruit and vegetable markets are various and abundant, and from the female peasantry who attend this department, the stranger will have the best opportunity of estimating the native beauty and picturesque costume for which they are celebrated.

Among the more frequented places of resort in the immediate neighbourhood, is the garden of General Pfyffer, containing the fine monument erected to the memory of the Swiss Guards, who fell in defence of the Tuilleries, on the 10th of August, 1792. It is hewn out of a solid rock, and represents a dying lion, the arrow still in the wound, and seeming, even in the agonies of death, to protect the emblem of France—the insulted *fleur de lis*. The design was furnished by Thorwaldsen, slightly improved from another recommended by the veteran Pfyffer, and sent to Rome for his approval. When the model returned to Switzerland, the execution was entrusted to M. Ahorn of Constance, who finished it in eighteen months, and received fifty thousand francs—two thousand pounds sterling—for his labour. The lion is twenty-eight feet in length, by eighteen in height, and, as a colossal work of art, does honour to the sculptor.

Omitting various other objects for the present, we proceed with a sort of heroic impulse on a pilgrimage to the field of Sempach!—a name which the

time, having concentrated his forces and received into his service many distinguished knights and auxiliaries, directed his march upon Sempach. "I will first," said he, "chastise those rebellious citizens with a rod of iron, and then carry my arms into Lucern."

When he came within view of Sempach, however, the standards of the Confederates were already planted on the heights, and their defenders ready for the charge. This was an unexpected sight, but, goaded on by revenge and his natural impetuosity, Leopold determined to make the attack forthwith. As the infantry had not yet come up, and apprehensive lest his cavalry, from the nature of the ground, should be thrown into confusion, he ordered his horsemen to dismount to the number of several thousands. This done, he formed them into dense columns, whose serried spears and polished mail presented a wall of iron, and commanded them to charge the Confederates. An electric shout responded to the word, and an easy victory seemed to await them, but the exulting shouts of the nobles were gravely checked by the baron Hassenburg, who better knew the men with whom they had to contend. "Pride," said he, "will here avail us nothing—it will be time enough to proclaim the victory when it is won. A strong arm is better than strong language." "But here," added Leopold impassionately, "here will I conquer or die!" And with these words, they made an impetuous charge upon the Confederates, who received the shock on their impenetrable phalanx without receding a step.

Their entire force did not exceed one thousand four hundred men, and these very indifferently armed in comparison of the steel-clad veterans to whom they were opposed. The combat was maintained for some time with desperate courage, they fell one by one, not unavenged—but still with fearful havoc on the part of the half-armed Swiss, upon whom the heavy mass of their opponents pressed with deadly effect. They were discouraged. Already some faint symptoms of wavering were manifested, when a voice like thunder restored them to courage, and once more stemmed the tide that was now setting so strongly in upon them. "Brothers—kinsmen—confederates!" exclaimed the voice—"be mine the task to open for you a passage to freedom! Protect my wife and children, and from my example learn that your only path to glory is through the enemy's front!" As he uttered these words, he rushed forward, and seizing in his powerful arms a sheaf of the spears directed against him, entangled them in his own body, and expired with them in his grasp. By this heroic sacrifice a temporary gap was formed, the Confederates, rushing over the dead body of the comrade to the breach, broke the enemy's file, and with their iron clubs and maces carried havoc and consternation into the very centre.

The heroic individual who thus, like a second Decius, "devoted" himself to his country, and, by one of the most extraordinary exploits on record, snatched the victory from an overwhelming force, was Arnold von Winkelried, a knight of Unterwalden

Deine he cried, the glorious deed!  
 Brave kinsmen follow me!  
 When in the deadly gap I bleed,  
 Press on—press nobly on! nor heed  
 The mangled form of Winkelried—  
*Our children shall be free!*

For a time the enemy maintained their ground with the courage of desperation, but the "wolves were in the fold," and that brilliant armour which shone so proudly in the sun, and in the distance proclaimed its wearer invulnerable, was now rather an incumbrance than a defence. The intense heat of July, the more intense fury of battle, and the redoubled blows of the Confederates, now inspired by victory, covered the ground with noble victims. The spears and lances of the dismounted cavaliers were ill matched with the brawny arms and iron clubs of the Swiss. Their bruised helmets, gaping mail, and shivered spears, gave fearful testimony to the fierceness of the combat. Already five hundred knights, who but that morning had buckled on their burnished harness, exulting in the thoughts of triumph, lay bleeding at the feet of those peasants they had so despised. A thousand more dyed their plumes in blood. Panic at length united in rendering the prowess of the Swiss complete. Leopold, as he strove to rally his discomfited squadron, thought of his father and the field of Morgarten. The shades of his ancestors rose before his eyes, and seemed to upbraid him with the day's disaster. "Avenge us!" they cried, and Leopold rushed with frantic courage into the thickest of the *melee*. Thrice the banner of Austria waved in the van, and thrice it was rolled in blood. The nobles who devoted their lives to the duke, dropt one by one from his side. Still the distinctive plume of Austria proclaimed the presence of their chief, but this day the peacock\* was to bow its proud crest to the Alpine

\* After this battle no one would venture abroad with the peacock's feather—the plume of the Austrian dukes; nor could the people throughout the Confederacy endure even the sight of a peacock. To such a height was this antipathy carried that, according to grave historians, a soldier was seen in a fit of frantic patriotism to dash his drinking cup in pieces because the refraction of the sun's rays in the glass presented the brilliant colours seen in the peacock's tail—"Parbleu, camarade! voilà une queue-de-paon." Le Suisse qui tenait le verre—comme s'il eut été rempli de poison—le pose sur la table sur son épée et sans respect pour une liqueur respectable à tout Suisse il met le verre en mille pièces en jurant qu'il s'abstiendrait plutôt de boire du vin le reste de ses jours, que d'avoir sous ses yeux un objet semblable.—*Am. Hist.*

vulture. One of the last staunch survivors of his ill-fated staff, well aware that the fate of the day was sealed, implored his sovereign to embrace the only alternative left, and to fly. "Never!" exclaimed Leopold—"never will I survive the gallant friends who have this day shed their blood for me!" Scarcely were the words uttered, when the heroic Leopold, struck down by a club of Uri, sealed the resolution with his blood. The rout was now complete, and the Austrians, weighed down with their cumbrous armour, fled towards their horses. But it was too late—the valets, in whose charge the horses had been left, observing the rush of retreat, had mounted, and, making the best of their way from the field, left their masters to the fury of their pursuers. But whether this was a preconcerted scheme on the part of Leopold to inspire a more determined hardihood by rendering flight hopeless—or whether it was the spontaneous impulse of those in attendance, is not known. The consequences were the same. Hundreds of the counts, barons, and knights of Swabia, Aargau, and the Tyrol, with a host of retainers perished in the retreat. The standard of Schaffhausen, though defended with their last breath by a chosen band of nobles and citizens, added to the trophies of the day. The standard-bearer of Lenzberg, Werner of Lo, and the chief magistrates of Aargau and Zofingen, with their intrepid followers, were left dead on the field. The latter, the avoyer of Zofingen, seeing his doom was fixed, in an agony of despair tore the city banner into shreds, so that no hostile hand might ever wave it as a trophy. This resolution seemed even to survive the stroke of death; for when animation had fled, and his hand could no longer perform its office, the staff of the banner was found firmly clenched between his teeth. The citizens of Mellingen and Bremgarten combated with the same desperate but fruitless valour; for, like a torrent suddenly bursting from their native rocks, the strength of the Confederates overpowered all resistance, and, although but as one to ten,\* the shout that proved them invincible proclaimed them free.

Such was the battle of Sempach, which the unparalleled devotion of Winkelried converted from a doubtful struggle into a complete triumph.†

\* The Austrian force is stated at fourteen thousand—that of the Confederates, at a tenth of that amount—See ZSCHOKKE, and the German historians.

† The character of Leopold has been painted by more than one historian under revolving colours—the apparent injustice of which gives additional relief to his virtues. He was distinguished, according to others, as the *prud'homme* of his contemporaries, and with a love of justice, possessed a high sense of honour, and a good and generous heart. Brought up in the camp, he had the frank valour of a soldier, but as a general, he was without experience; and for military talent, had only a fearless and intrepid spirit. He was carried away by the representations of the nobles; and in making war upon the Swiss, yielded rather to the solicitations of his evil advisers than the suggestions of his own mind. His body was privately removed from the field, and buried in the monastery of Hünigkofen, already described.

In the arsenal of Lucern, the third and uppermost apartment contains the memorials of the battle of Sempach, among which are the chain armour, or shirt of mail, worn by Leopold—the iron collars, lined with spikes, with which it is said he intended to have tortured the avoyer Gundeldingen, who fell in the same conflict—and the banner which he carried on that day, still bearing upon it the ensanguined marks of his blood. But of Winkelried no relic has descended to posterity—

“ He of battle martyrs chief  
Who to recall his daunted peers,  
For victory shaped an open space  
By gathering with a wide embrace  
Into his single heart a sheaf  
Of fatal Austrian spears !

A few years ago, a melancholy and mysterious event, in immediate reference to the person of its first magistrate, threw a deep gloom over Lucern. The avoyer of the canton, M Keller, while passing the month of June at his country seat, went one morning to visit a friend in his neighbourhood. On his return home in the evening, the weather became stormy, and a good deal of rain fell. M Keller was on foot, accompanied by his two daughters, who being apprehensive of the consequences upon his delicate state of health, at their earnest solicitation he quickened his pace in order to gain shelter. The distance was not great, and the young ladies followed him with the pleasing conviction that he would speedily reach home. When they arrived, however, and inquired if their father had changed his dress, they were thrown into the greatest alarm on being told by the servants that he had not been seen ! The most distressing apprehensions were instantly awakened, diligent search was made along the road, but the night passed away without eliciting any thing to soothe the agonized state of mind under which they laboured. The messengers returned, but with no information that could relieve the suspense of the unhappy family. The path was bordered by precipices, and it was conjectured that he might there have made a fatal step, for in Switzerland, as the reader is aware, these mountain roads are often obliterated by sudden torrents, but of this, in the present instance, his daughters who followed him observed no particular danger. The search was renewed, and the melancholy conjecture was too soon realized, for, on exploring this wild locality, the body of the avoyer was found, lacerated and disfigured, in the bottom of a chasm and when taken out, presented an appearance which, in the minds of some present, excited a persuasion that the worthy magistrate had been waylaid and assassinated.

It appears that, a short time previous to this event, a band of robbers had been captured in the environs of Zurich, the chief of whom was a female, named Clara Wendel, well known in Lucern, and the terror of its rural population. This abandoned female charged two magistrates of Lucern with having engaged herself and her troop to assassinate M. Keller. The individuals thus accused were men of the highest reputation—both upwards of sixty, and fathers of families. They were immediately apprehended on the charge, and transferred to the prison of Zurich, to be there confronted with their accusers. The brigands, though supporting for a time the charge by numerous circumstances that gave it an air of probability, prevaricated so much at last that the accused were allowed to return home, there to remain under private arrest till the trial was concluded. 'A long period of restraint and seclusion elapsed before this could be effected; but at length, on the 2d of September, 1826, they were fully acquitted of every part of the charge, and restored to their families, but without any compensation whatever for the sacrifice they had made. Clara Wendel confessed that the whole charge, was got up by herself and band without the slightest foundation; but nothing could induce her to reveal the names of those at whose instigation she had lent herself to the plot. She was sentenced to pay the costs of the proceeding, which were enormous, but such, nevertheless, as the fruits of former robberies enabled her to defray without inconvenience.\*

The mountains entitled to especial notice in this neighbourhood are the Righi, belonging to Schwyz, and the Pilatus. The first of these is justly celebrated; and to contemplate the splendid panorama which the Righi-culm or summit commands, is an object of never-failing ambition with all who visit Lucern or the banks of its lake. The four points from which the ascent may be accomplished, are from Goldau, Art, Weggis,† and Kusnacht—but of

\* Her age was apparently about thirty five. She had no knowledge of her parents, or any other branch of her family. She had never been instructed in, nor conformed to, the practice of any religion whatever, and was supposed to have been brought up by Bohemians, or gipseys. The canton of Lucern appears to have been her favourite district, and on that account was supposed to have been her native country. Having attached herself whilst very young to a troop of banditti, she at length became their leader, and maintained this situation of command over them by the hardness and boldness of her character, and the incredible address with which she foiled the efforts of the police. It was confidently expected that this woman and part of her gang would have been executed, but the lady, it appears, was under powerful protection, and not amenable to the last penalty of the law—for more copious details, see STEVENSON, and the Public Journals of the day.

† This handsome and picturesque village was nearly destroyed in the month of July 1795, by a torrent of mud from the Righi, several fathoms in depth.—*Statist. Picot.*



these the first presents the greatest facility, and the most agreeable objects. After a walk of three hours, we reach a small valley, with a chapel dedicated to our Lady-of-the Snow, where several resident capuchins perform religious ceremonies, which are the means of attracting a continued concourse of pilgrims during the fine season. In 1719, it was found necessary to enlarge this chapel, so as to keep it in proportion with the increasing sanctity. Here, on the 8th of September, the birth-day of the Virgin is celebrated with all possible ceremony, at which a vast concourse from the neighbouring villages, and often from a great distance, appear in holiday costume. When the weather is propitious, the scene is one of the most imposing to be met with in any part of Switzerland. On the 22d of July and 10th of August—the fêtes, respectively, of Ste Magdalene and St Lawrence—festivals are celebrated in their honour by the shepherds at which rural dances and gymnastic games form the great attractions of the day.

From the chapel to the summit of the mountain, the distance may be easily accomplished in an hour. The most auspicious moment for enjoying the view in perfection, is about half an hour before sunrise, when the morning vapours have not yet risen to obscure the magnificent picture which here develops itself in many wondrous combinations—

Lakes, rivers, long drawn vales—towns, hamlets, towers,  
From Gothard a glacier snows to Swabian bowers.

Thirteen lakes, at various distances, are seen sparkling in the circumference. On the north, the view extends into the very centre of Swabia, presenting a richly coloured relief, over which the eye of the spectator roves in silent rapture, as the eagle—hovering in mid-way air, or from his acerie in some isolated pinnacle of the Alps—looks down upon the states and kingdoms scattered at his feet.\* The sound of sheep-bells from the pastures, mingling with others that with a deeper and more distant chime, call the villagers to matins—the smoke of the first fires curling in light blue wreaths above their sheltering woods—the lowing of herds, rushing to their morning pasture—the mountain peaks, varying in

\* The height of the Rigi—*Mons rigidus vel regis vel regina Montium*—is estimated at five thousand seven hundred feet above the sea, and extends in a circuit of nearly ten leagues along the frontier of the canton and lake of Lucerne. It abounds in excellent pasture sufficient in summer for three thousand cows, besides goats and sheep. Along its surface upwards of one hundred and fifty châteaux are seated in which numerous patents and invalids are lodged—as well as in the inns, which are all commodious—during the season, for the benefit of the pure air and milk regimen, prescribed in nervous maladies, in which the Rigi surpasses in great perfection.

The present View is taken from a point less frequented than the Rigi (the usual panoramic station) and to the left of the inn as we ascend—the lake of Lucerne is seen below—Swiss mountains with a fine line of barren in the distance.



tint and distinctness as the light oversteps their summits—the glaciers, gradually changing their snowy glare into a purple and then a rosy glow—spires and pinnacles catching the first ray of light, and assuming their wonted station of landmarks in the scene—sails, half in shade and half in sunshine, skimming the lakes with their rural produce and population—the alpine horn, pealing its signals from the pastoral *bergs* around—the pilgrim troop, with solemn chaunt and motley costume, bringing their donations to the confessional of “Our Lady”—the screams of the vulture in pursuit of his prey, and many other “sights and sounds” which it would be tedious to enumerate, strike the eye and imagination of a stranger so forcibly, that he feels for a time as if transported into the mysteries of a new world.

Towards the south, the view assumes an indescribable sublimity. The summit of the snowy alps of Unterwald, Uri, Glaris, and the Grisons, present themselves in gigantic detail, and in the foreground of the picture, Mount Pilate, with its fabled lake and mysterious cloud, recalls the legend of superstition. On this side of the Rhine the climate is abundantly marked by its products, the fig, the almond, and chestnut, thrive along the shore of the lake, rare alpine plants afford a rich harvest to the botanist among the acclivities, while the geologist observes at every few steps some interesting materials for study. The Rhine is composed of alternate layers of clay and *conglomerate*, calcareous stone being only observed on the south west flank, but to this department we have already briefly adverted in our account of the destruction of Goldau\*. On the side overhanging the lake of Zug is a tremendous precipice, upwards of four thousand feet perpendicular, where, a few years since, a melancholy catastrophe took place, which the guides never fail to narrate with every appalling circumstance. From this verge, indeed—

The clougl's and crows that wing the mid-way air  
Show scarce so gross as beetles.

Mount Pilate†—Mons Pilatus—so called from the fact of its summits being generally covered with a cap of clouds, forms an isolated mass, with the Luthibuch on the north west, and Unterwald on the south east. It is considerably more elevated than the Rhine, and equally famous for its rich pasturage. On the north-east is the defile of Reuss, leading to Unterwald, where, in August 1802, the Helvetic troops were surprised by the inhabitants of Unterwalden.

\* Vol. I. pp. 135—142.

† The view is taken from the hill above the cathedral with the Pilatus in the background.



till about the close of the sixteenth century that this superstition lost ground, in consequence of an experiment made by a number of individuals who took upon them to exorcise the spirit of the lake. For this purpose they ascended in a body, performed several cautionary ceremonies on its brink, and being well armed with proof-charms against all enchantments, grew at last so bold as to hurl entire masses of stone into the water, and even with still greater hardihood to swim across it, without the least expression of resentment from the spirit of Pontius Pilate! From this time the storms on the Brundeln-Alp have been assigned to more natural causes.

Besides a very extraordinary echo, with which the shepherds are familiar, this alp contains two remarkable caverns. The first of these, the Mondmilchloch, or grotto of the moon, is of easy access, and in the entrance divides into two branches. A stream of water at the lowest temperature issues from it with a peculiar sound, not unlike that produced by water when rapidly propelled through a metallic tube. It contains a great quantity of mineral agaric, or marly earth, known in the country as Mondmilch, or moon-milk; and hence the name of the grotto. The other cavern, long known as the grotto of St. Dominic, is situated in the upper part of a vertical wall of rock, rising above the adjoining pasture to the height of twelve hundred feet. The only means of exploring this mysterious recess, is to secure the adventurer by strong ropes, and lower him from the top to a depth of three hundred feet, a method attended with such imminent danger as to have long deterred the boldest hunters from risking the experiment. At the entrance of this aerial mansion, is the appearance of a statue resting on a table, and by the learned of former days, supposed to be the work of the Romans, or of some magic chisel. This illusion, however, like the legend already described, has been dissipated by a recent adventurer,\* and divested of all its poetical associations—

Fobbed of their spell, by one adventurous arm,  
The saint and cave have lost their mystic charm.—  
The Inquisitor becomes a shapeless block,  
And his dread cave a rude unchiselled rock!

\* In 1811, after an individual, named Hubert v. Kriem, had lost his life in making the experiment, a chamois-hunter, named Ignatius Matt, succeeded in the perilous undertaking. Its depth, according to Matt, is one hundred and twenty feet, and ninety in height, by twenty-eight in breadth. It is composed of limestone with no stalactites, but a small dripping gallery, from which an exceedingly limpid water is continually distilled. The floor is covered with sand and spar. Two detached blocks of stone project slightly from the entrance—the first about eight feet high, and having the appearance of a statue with its elbows on the second block, which resembles a table. Hence the name of *St. Dominic's Cave*.—*Hildegger*.

Crossing the lake from Winkel to the village of Stanzstadt,\* we continue in the same route to Stantz—the capital of this division of Unterwald—which will offer sufficient inducement to the tourist for a few hours' halt. It had a fearful rôle assigned to it in the sanguinary conflict of the late revolution. The town is charmingly situated in a beautiful pastoral valley, and with an air of tranquillity and seclusion which makes an impression upon the most indifferent observer. Among the chief objects of interest in the town is the statue of Winkelried, whose ancient habitation, in an adjoining meadow, is still venerated in memory of its heroic master, and now belongs to the Trachsler family. The next object that speaks of the olden time is the Town house, in which, as we have already described,† the holy Nicholas von der Flue so happily appeased the dissensions of his countrymen. A painting, by Wolmar, represents the hermit taking leave of his wife and family, in order to devote his future days to religious abstinence and retirement in one of his native wilds, from which he afterwards emerged, like an especial messenger sent by heaven, to spare the effusion of human blood.

Stantz still retains some melancholy traces of the revolutionary fury which, in 1798, more particularly manifested itself in the smaller cantons. In September of that year, the army under Schauenberg, in order to crush resistance and enforce obedience at the point of the bayonet, invaded this territory at three different quarters of attack, and carried fire and sword into its very centre. The men of Unterwald opposed the invaders with a patriotic devotion worthy of the descendants of Winkelried. But their desperate resistance, unshrinking fortitude, and unconquerable antipathy to the Gallic name—an antipathy to which the suggestions of their priests gave a tenfold force, could not long withstand the superior tactics and overwhelming numbers of the enemy. "Still," said they, "with their blood did our forefathers win that jewel of independence, and with *ours* only will we lose it!"

The horrors to which this frantic bravery gave rise, are of the most tragic description. Revenge and fanaticism, which for a time would neither grant nor accept quarter, furnished scenes of mutual extermination and cruelty for which it would be difficult to find any parallel in history. Matrons and their daughters, old men and children—all combined for the defence of their homes, and of these the happiest were they who fell in battle. Massacre stood with bloody hands at the hearth—the priest was shot at the altar—the houses were

\* On the most advanced point of a small promontory is seen an old tower which as well as the whole of this village was burnt during the attack of 1798.

† Vol. p. 62-3

given to the flames—and but for the generous efforts of certain French officers not a house would have been left standing.

"I pierce amid the loud alarms, shouting in the foremost fray,  
Children raised their little arms in their country's evil day!  
On their country's dying bed, wives and husbands poured their breath,  
Many a youth and maiden bled—married at thine altar, Death!  
On that grim and ghastly plain, Unterwalden's heart strings broke,  
When she saw her heroes slain and her rocks receive the yoke,—  
Now the glen that gave them birth, hides their ashes in its womb —  
O 'tis venerable earth!—Freedom's cradle—Freedom's tomb!"

From Stantz to Sarnen the scenery may be considered rather tame than striking—tame in comparison with what we have already described. Sarnen, the capital of the upper, as Stantz is of the lower, district of the canton, is delightfully situated at the northern extremity of the lake, the banks of which are gracefully interspersed with hamlets, cottages, and villas. The town is well built, and on the hill immediately above are seen the ruins of the castle of Landenberg, taken by stratagem in 1308, as described in the present work †. It is now converted to an arsenal, and serves also as a place for assembling the landsgemeinde, or cantonal "parliament." The view over the valley is exceedingly interesting from this point. Like Stantz, the town of Sarnen contains three large monastic establishments. The public buildings display considerable elegance, the parish church is handsome, and the town-house contains a numerous list of historical portraits—

"Of men who in their country's sacred cause  
Built freedom's bulwarks and upheld her laws."

After quitting Sarnen, we advance through a succession of magnificent forest scenery, till we reach the first stage of the Brung—with Mount Pilate in the rear—when suddenly the delicious lake of Lungern‡ is seen expanding its glittering waters at our feet. This is one of the most exquisite spots in Switzerland—a complete fairy scene, so deep its seclusion—so perfectly beautiful its character—and on three sides embayed by richly wooded mountains or rather mountain summits, for one of its remarkable features is, that it is situated on the mountain—at an elevation of two thousand three hundred and twenty feet—with woody promontories jutting forward into its tranquil surface

\* "The Wanderers in Switzerland, by JAMES MONTGOMERY

† Vol. i. p. 119

‡ The annexed admirable View of this lake is taken from the Sarnen side, looking towards the Oberland

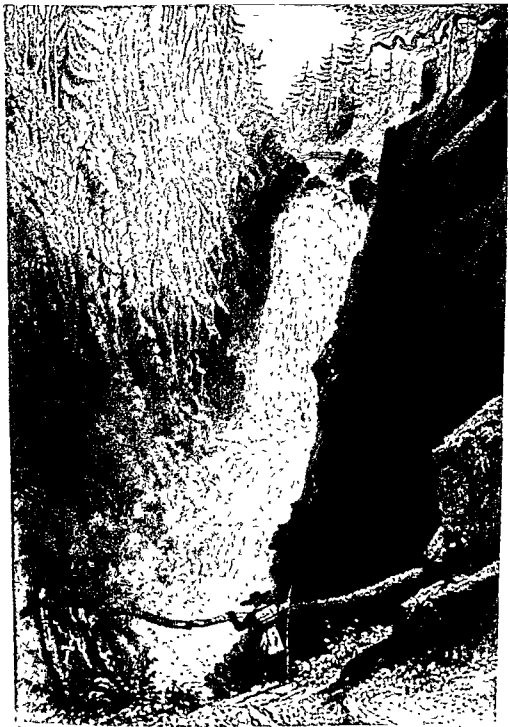


In the distance, the snowy pinnacles of the Schreck, the Well, and Wetter Horns—the giant pinnacles of the Oberland—are seen glowing like gold in the evening sun, and, as twilight advances—

Far up yon rugged alp the forest heaves—  
Fanned by the breath, and flickering in the beam  
Of starry shades—a wilderness of leaves;  
Through which at intervals the glacier stream  
Leaps forth in a river!

When seen to advantage—such as it now appears from the point selected by Mr Bartlett—this lake forms a picture “rarely to be matched in beauty, and scarcely to be surpassed in sublimity.” It is in speaking of such scenes as this that “the language of enthusiasm is the language of truth.” The village of Lungern, the last of the canton, contains a good inn, with an air of great order and cleanliness. The houses are faced with small pieces of wood painted to resemble the scales of fish. The canal, excavated for the partial drainage of the lake, is about two hundred and twelve fathoms long, and hollowed out of the calcareous rock.

A boundary stone on the summit of the Brunig marks the conterminous frontiers of Bern and Unterwald, and a short walk farther brings us once more among the unrivalled scenery of the Oberland. In respect to the Wetterhorn just mentioned, there had long been a favourite tradition that it contained a rich vein of gold ore. Stimulated by this belief, a mine was partially opened, about forty years ago, but the skill of the miners being neutralized by their superstition, the work was soon abandoned as a violation of the sanctuary in which the spirits of the mountain held their orgies. Whenever, it is said, the miners pickaxe struck the rock, the stroke was answered by some invisible hand. Sometimes, too, the workmen were assailed by showers of stones—sometimes the murmur of disapprobation was whispered ominously through the crevices—while the labour of the longest day was often so completely frustrated during the night, that when they returned in the morning the miners found the excavations carefully filled up! Flesh and blood could not endure this, so a resolution was unanimously passed to concede the point rather than incur the numerous risks of a spiritual warfare. To this, however, it was objected by a person in authority, that as they had hitherto seen nothing, they would be greatly to blame if they abandoned a rich booty, merely because they surmised some little demurrer on the part of the holders. Gold, said he, was not an article to be come at like the baser metals, and, for his part, all the





spirits in the Oberland should not compel him to forego the treasure. The workmen thus shamed into fortitude, turned their faces once more to the excavation, but what was their terror and amazement when they perceived that every avenue leading to the mine was sentinelled by spirits of most frightful aspect, all ready, seemingly, to rush upon and annihilate them! The miners felt as if sinking into the earth. One of their number, however, so far recollecting himself at that most critical moment as to place himself daringly between the spirits and his companions, held up a small cross, of peculiar sanctity, which he carried, and, under the protection of this hallowed symbol, they all escaped in great trepidation, but never again ventured "to dig for gold in the Wetterhorn!

Previously to our entering the territory of Fribourg, it is necessary to introduce a brief notice of the Grimsel and Ghemmi. The former of these, the pass of the Grimsel, serves as the medium of intercourse between the upper district of the Vallais and the Oberland. The road follows alternately the right and left banks of the Aar, and in some respects resembles that of the St Gothard. Here, however, we find more torrents and fewer habitations, with little *patée* and very indifferent bridges. The ascent begins immediately above Meyringhen, near Karchet, but again becomes level in the charming valley of Imgrund. This circular space is supposed to have been in remote times the bed of a lake, till the Aar forced a passage across the sombre gorge of the high rocks which divide it from the rest of the Hasli.

Near the village of Guttannen, the path becomes more rough—particularly at Handeck, where travellers usually halt for refreshment. Near this cabin are observed several beautiful cascades, the finest of which is that of the Aar, precipitated in a mass—inferior only to that of the Rhine—over a height of two hundred feet into a profound gulf. To see this fall to advantage, the traveller should time his visit so as to reach it in the morning, between the hours of nine and eleven, but being of difficult access, it is advisable to take a guide.\*

From this point to the Hospice a distance of two leagues, the ascent becomes more and more difficult. Trees and vegetation gradually diminish, and finally disappear, shrubs and grass give place to the glaciers, rocks, and torrents with which the soil seems ploughed up and encumbered. The rocks are usually of enormous flat granite masses, very slippery, and with steps marked along the route. One of these, many yards across, is known as the Hollenplatte, or hell stone, on account of the danger to which it exposes the traveller, when it is covered with fresh ice. Near the last bridge, the Aar forms another fine

\* This scene is strikingly illustrated by the accompanying Plate

cascade The Hospice of the Grimsel, according to M Trey, is six thousand five hundred and eighty feet above the sea \* It occupies a hollow rounded space, near two small lakes, which communicate with each other—the nearer having a depth of thirty two, and the further of sixty-two feet. These waters present a sombre and death like appearance, they contain no living substance, and to this circumstance, rather than to that mentioned by Saussure, is to be ascribed the characteristic name of Todten see, or the dead lake

The Hospice is a rude massy stone building, suited to the place and purpose of its erection. Here the poor are furnished with temporary lodging and refreshment, gratis, and the tourist supplied, if not with luxuries, with, at least, the necessities of life, which, in a wide inhospitable desert like this, become more acceptable than the most dainty fare would be in the valley.

The Hospice, and its surrounding pastures, which were the theatre of various conflicts between the French and Austrians in 1799, are farmed out by the com-

"The passage of the Grindel is often attended with hazard, and demands much caution on the part of the tourist, who ought invariably to choose an experienced guide for the journey. Last year Mr Bartlett (to whose admirable delineations of Swiss scenery the present work is indebted for its almost unprecedented success) had a very narrow escape on this route. Being informed that it was perfectly practicable he set out early and proceeding alone spent some time at the cascade of the Aar near Handerk. From that point where the ascent is very wild—particularly so at this season (May 1839), when if a snow of the avalanche lay on the melting and arching torrent of the Aar which had eaten its way through the enormous masses previously melted and arching the torrent of the Aar which had eaten its way through the enormous masses previously melting snows, foamed over loose blocks of granite forming an almost continuous cataract. On the left, the sloping bank covered with smooth frozen snow five or six feet deep, and based upon the rocks projecting into the river—was traversed by two paths, one scarcely trodden, lay along the brink and the other above the recent footmarks, ascended the slope very rapidly. He had mounted to about 40 or 50 feet above the river, when having some doubts as to the path, and remaining some moments to survey the locality determined to descend. He had scarcely done so, turning round and proceeding step by step when a loud sound of rushing avalanche from above burst upon his ear and looking up he beheld a tremendous mass of large snow blocks bursting over the summit of the steep and descending upon him in immense quantity. No words can describe the feelings of such a moment. The next instant the blocks thundered down the slope were upon him, and he was dashed beneath—scattered in several directions—and precipitated into the rushing torrent beneath. Stunned by the crash, he recovered consciousness amidst the avalanche into the rushing torrent beneath. Stunned by the crash, he recovered consciousness to what appeared certain destruction—for he was now fast hurrying down the perpendicular face of the colossal energy he struggled to gain the bank. After some further effort, to his general surprise he succeeded and clung for support to a projecting rock overhead, and no traveller could be expected at it appeared difficult or even doubtful. Every thing was soon done, and no traveller could be expected at it appeared difficult or even doubtful. Every thing was soon done, and no traveller could be expected at it appeared difficult or even doubtful.

B. E.



munity of Oberhasli for an annual rent of about one thousand Swiss livres,\* and the tenant engages to furnish a meal and lodging to all the poor who cross the pass during the season. In return for this hospitality, however, he is allowed, like the monks of St Bernard, to collect contributions in the neighbouring districts, during the winter, as well as to levy a toll upon all merchandise crossing the Grimsel, which may amount annually to about two hundred and fifty livres. Travellers in easy circumstances are of course expected to pay liberally for a hospitality by which so many lives are saved, and so many disasters averted.

The tourist, by continuing this route, may now visit the glaciers of the Rhone, descend into the Vallais, and following the course of the river to Leuk, visit the Baths, and cross the Ghemmi into the Kanderthal. He will then ascend the valley of the Simmen, and enter the territory of Fribourg, by Gruyeres. But for the sake of the illustrations we reverse the order of this tour.

The impetuous Kander† takes its rise not far from the Ghemmi, in the magnificent glacier to which it gives name, and, in the wild and solitary valley of Gasterthal, forming several beautiful cascades, receives the tribute of many kindred torrents. Its course, rendered more striking by the number and peculiarity of its windings, continues towards the north, and, bearing along with it a vast quantity of *debris*, finally loses itself in the lake of Thun.

This valley is little frequented by tourists, it is about three leagues in length, and being amply watered by its glacier streams, is furnished with a rich and abundant vegetation. The botanist may here, at little trouble, during the season, supply his herbarium with several rare plants. Kandersteg, the only village, consists of a few houses grouped round its temple of primitive simplicity, and surrounded by green and luxurious pastures. About a league and a half north-east from Kandersteg is the Oschenthal—an uninhabited but exceedingly romantic valley. The path to it skirts a torrent of the same name, which precipitates itself through a narrow gorge, and, in its progress to the Kander,

\* In 1818 the proprietor of this private farm engaged to furnish and supply one hundred and forty two poor men, seated near the passage for the winter, with two milk cows, and ten calves with the following conditions:—like the present, the right of such a herd remained to the imagination of the traveller, though of the ancient parents and the de la Sion.

† At the commencement of the last century the Kander fell into the Aar above Thun; but the stream, by the aid of a bank which it was then obliged to make, and gave the right of both rivers, and by the aid of the channels, in a small frequent town, and, and caused much water to be lost. The great consequence which every year caused more eggs and more were taken to be the cause of the loss of the lake. In 1818, the purpose of the government of Bern was to build a canal to be built in the lake of Thun, and by the aid of the Kander to be built in the lake, and by the aid of the canal to be built in the lake. The River of the Kander has been improved, in one of the most recent years of the last century.



thirds from the bottom, and considerably above this stage, an isolated pine tree occupies a point, the most formidable in the whole pass, projecting over a clear precipice of eleven hundred feet and upwards • From this tree, in fulfilment of some trifling bet, a hardy mountaineer is said to have climbed up the branches, cut off the leading shoot, and carried it off in triumph

About half a league from the lake—a mass of ice and snow during eight months of the year—is the chalet of Schwarrbach, occupied as an inn during the summer, but quite uninhabitable during the winter, when the snow is often accumulated to a height of eighteen feet. This is the scene of the “*Vier und Zwanzigste Februar*, the well known tragedy by Werner Here, during the long winter months, the only sounds to be heard are the “howling of wolves, the screaming of eagles, the creak of alpine ravens, the thunder of the glaciers, the rush of cataracts, or the fitful roar of the tempest

Continuing to retrace our steps, the road passes over the ruins of a fallen mountain, and subsequently over the traces of an avalanche, which, in 1782, detached itself from the Rinderhorn We now proceed by the route already described, and mounting the rich pastoral valley of the Simmen, enter the territory of Fribourg

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## CANTONS OF FRIBOURG AND VAUD

“ Dans notre heureuse patrie il n'est point de chaumière où ne règne la liberté.

THE Canton of Fribourg is nearly surrounded by the territories of Vaud and Bern and in its greatest extent about fourteen leagues long, by eleven broad The southern district is traversed by two chains of mountains, one of which forms part of the Jura, and the other part of the Bernese Alps Towards the north, the mountains, gradually diminishing, sink into gentle acclivities, and these into plains of some extent, which produce excellent wheat The highest mountains of the canton—none of which exceed six thousand two hundred feet above the sea, are those situated near Gruyeres, they have, consequently, no glaciers, and, like the Jura, lose their snows in summer The lake of Neuchatel, already described, borders the canton to the extent of three leagues,

\* The height of the Ghemmi is six thousand nine hundred and eighty five feet above the sea.

and the "historic" lake of Morat, like the preceding, belongs only in part Fribourg. Besides these, the Schwartzsee, the Seedorf, and the Luchy—the first with baths, much frequented by invalids—add many picturesque features to the landscape. The principal rivers are the Sarine, the Broye, the Joigne, the Singine, the Veraise, and the Genne. Various mineral waters—particularly the sulphureous springs of Bonn, near the capital, are in high repute, but in this respect Fribourg is much less prolific than her neighbour. No metallic veins have yet been discovered, but in the prefecture of Gruyère salt mines have been found which are supposed to communicate with the famous mines of Bex\*. The native quarries are abundant, and supply an excellent stone for building. One of the principal occupations of the inhabitants is the management of their meadows, amounting to upwards of sixty six thousand acres,† but the great source of profit is the mountain pasturage, which without calculating other stock, feeds upwards of twelve thousand milk cows. According to calculation, each of these cows—from the fifteenth of May till the ninth of October, the full pasturage season—produces, on an average, two hundred pounds' weight of cheese, yielding thus a product of seven hundred and sixty-eight thousand francs. The famous Gruyères cheese is made in the chain of mountains between the Bernese territory of Schwytzenbourg and the districts of Vevey and Aigle. The proprietors of the lowland districts‡ are in the habit of letting their cows to the herdsmen of the Alps, for the season, at about thirty Swiss livres a head. Besides the pursuit of agriculture, which is held in honour among the people, they cultivate a great variety of fruits, from which they extract a peculiar juice by boiling, much used in the baking of cakes and confectionary. Cherries are used in the high grounds for the distilling of Kirschwasser, and in the lower, tobacco plantations are so extensive as to have rendered that article an important branch of exportation. The potato has long been in very general use as a wholesome esculent. The vine occupies but a very small portion of the soil—not above six hundred acres, it is said—and the wine is of an inferior quality.

\* See Vol. II.

† The acre fifty thousand square feet, Bernese measure.—*Piet.*

‡ The canton is divided into twelve prefectures, in each of which the residing magistrate is charged with the administration of the law. The sovereign power is entrusted to one hundred and forty-four members of the Great Council of whom twenty-eight are members of the Lesser Council. They hold their office during life and with an avoyer or chief magistrate at the head, are styled the Great and Lesser Councils of the city and republic of Fribourg. These councils are composed of one hundred and eighteen members of patrician families or burghesses of the capital, and of thirty-six members drawn from the other towns and rural communes. The public revenues, arising out of various domains belonging to the government, customs, fines, &c. amount for the year 1840 to eleven hundred and ninety thousand Swiss livres, and the public expenses for the same period to three hundred and eighty-four thousand.

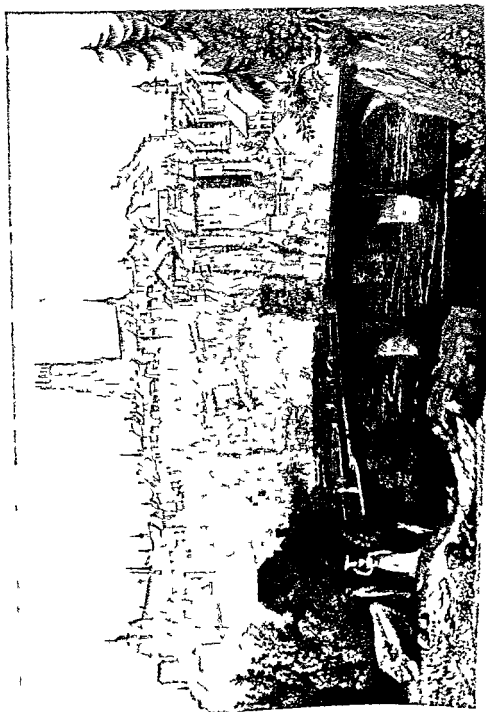
The Friburghers are not a commercial people. They prefer moderate gains to the most profitable speculation, and generally transmit to posterity unimpaired, if not improved, what they have received by inheritance. That part of the population who speak French, show a much greater partiality, or aptitude for trade than the Germans, who rarely embark in that uncertain stream. Their maxim is—little gain and sure. Agriculture, as already stated, occupies the lower districts,\* which are very fertile, whilst the hilly country is entirely taken up with the breeding of cattle and the manufacture of cheese and butter, which always insure a ready market. During the dull months of winter, the plaiting of straw is a considerable source of rural industry. The exports are cattle, butter, cheese, sawed timber and vine props for the neighbouring cantons, raw and tanned hides, &c. The town of Fribourg has manufactures of hats, lace, glass, cards, cotton and cloth, of which the *red* passes for the finest dye in Switzerland.

The appearance of both men and women is generally favourable—often prepossessing—and with an elegant figure, for which they enjoy a hereditary reputation. Though excess in wine is by no means uncommon, crimes are still rare among them. In their manners, however, they are only beginning to make advances towards modern refinement, and still exhibit in their domestic habits, pastimes, and prejudices, the rude features of their ancestors. The public festivals are not numerous, but are oftener celebrated in the *cabarets* than in the open air. Of these cafés, or cabarets, the city of Fribourg alone possesses upwards of a hundred—a symptom by no means favourable to the growth of morality. Marriages are celebrated by public dances, which are continued twice a week during carnival, but the great national fête takes place in autumn, and is called the Consecration of the Dance, or “solemn opening of the balls that are to enliven the winter. This fête continues three days running—Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, but the ball is not allowed to be kept up later than eight o'clock in the evening. The *jours de fête* amount to about a hundred annually, including Sundays and Saints-days. An old custom, once very general in the canton, is still observed at Estavayer, namely—that of singing on the Place de Moudon national songs, or rondos, known under the name of *coraoules*. In one of these, the subject is the marriage of a very poor couple, and to console the bride, who is quite in tears at the sight of the misery in which she finds her husband, the latter repeats to her this consoling burthen—

When others feast we'll fast and pray  
And weep when others laugh and play —*Quand ils s'autron &c &c*

\* Sixty thousand acres are cultivated in wheat and other crops sixteen thousand five hundred in plantations, private property; and four thousand in timber belonging to the state.







in 1239, and like every other building in the place, has an air of venerable antiquity. The town is well deserving of a visit.

The city of Fribourg alone contains ten monastic establishments—the whole canton nine monasteries, and seven nunneries, some of which are famous in history, and still attract multitudes of pilgrims.\* The College of Fribourg is a vast edifice, and sufficiently known as a theological seminary. Every commune of this canton has an elementary school, and every town, even the smallest, its hospital—that of the capital is on a very large scale. With these ample provisions for the poor and afflicted, the habit of mendicancy, once so general in the town, is nearly abolished. In establishments of this kind, however, it must be admitted that the German districts are considerably behind the others. In point of style and situation, the city of Fribourg is one of the most romantic in Europe, and certainly the most striking in Switzerland. The great number of its convents, towers, spires, and churches, rising one above the other, and overhanging the river Sarine, which flows at the bottom of a perpendicular wall of rock—its walls flanked with towers—presents an appearance quite novel to the spectator. The houses enclose numerous gardens, and even vineyards, and the streets are embellished with at least twenty eight or thirty fountains. The streets are steep, the buildings of an antique and often grotesque appearance, and surmounted by the great tower of the cathedral. The town house is built where stood in ancient times the palace of the dukes of Zaringhen. The great linden tree, planted in 1476, in commemoration of the battle of Morat, or according to others, as far back as 1179, by Berch told IV, is a vegetable prodigy. Several centuries after, it is said, when much decayed, it was accidentally set fire to on a fete-day, when the great quantity of water with which it was then inundated, made it renew its youth, and throw out fresh shoots. But in 1818, a waterspout injured it so materially, that its branches now require to be supported. It is still a great curiosity, and held in high veneration by the inhabitants. The cathedral was founded in 1283—the tower of which, three hundred and fifty six feet, is the highest in Switzerland, and among the objects best deserving of a visit. This church has the finest ring of bells in the Confederacy. At its porch is a picture representing

\* In 1827 the canton, in a population of sixty two thousand contained two hundred and seventy nine monks two hundred and eighty one nuns and two hundred and forty seven secular priests or one ecclesiastic for every hundred and ten of the inhabitants. But the city of Fribourg with a population of only six thousand four hundred and sixty souls, maintains forty five seculars, one hundred and forty one monks of whom eighty-seven are Jesuits and one hundred and forty nine nuns—or one for every sixth of the inhabitants—a proportion which, perhaps is not to be found in any other town of Europe.—See Statist. de la Suisse.





the wicked precipitated by demons into the flames of purgatory. The houses of the "Court Chemin" are also very remarkable in respect to their position, the *parée* of the principal street serving as their roof. The people resemble the ancient *Tyri bilingues*, inasmuch as they speak two languages—German in the lower, and French in the higher part of the town.

But the modern wonder of Fribourg is the great iron Suspension Bridge, finished only within the last year. On approaching the city from the road to Bern, we observe, near the inn lately built, the commencement of a new route, constructed by government for communicating with the bridge. The road inclines gently towards the town, which from this point exhibits all its characteristic features in striking display. The eye catches in succession—as if from a picture gradually unfolding itself—the superb *Pensionnat* lately established, the Lyceum, the College of Jesuits, the majestic tower of St. Nicholas, above noticed, as well as numerous churches, convents, and those turreted houses, picturesquely grouped, which give so peculiar an aspect to the city of Fribourg. After having passed all those objects in review—framed, so to speak, in a circle of waving verdure and rocks—we perceive this magnificent monument of modern art and patriotism stretching before us, and suspended at a prodigious height across the deep valley of the Sarne. Two simple but elegant porticos terminate and form the extremities of an immense inverted arch, formed by the two iron cables which support the platform. The balustrade, although simply designed, offers a very striking coup-d'œil. When a carriage, or even the heaviest waggon, passes along this bridge, the ear is struck with the hollow sound caused by the horses' feet, but the keenest eye would seek in vain to discover the slightest undulation either in the cables of suspension, or on the bridge itself. By those who cross it on foot, not the smallest degree of oscillation is perceptible.\*

\* The clear height of this bridge above the Sarne is one hundred and seventy four feet—the length between the porticos or suspension piers, which are Roman Doric archways, nine hundred and five feet and the breadth of the roadway forty-one feet. By this measurement it appears that the bridge of Fribourg is thirty feet longer than that of the Menai in Wales. The construction of this edifice was entrusted to M. Chaley, a French engineer who has amply justified the confidence reposed in him, and completed a task which will long be regarded among the greatest wonders of modern times. The bridge was first opened to foot passengers on the 23d of August, and on the 8th of October following to carriages of all descriptions. At that time a train of sixteen pieces of heavy artillery, drawn by fifty horses, and attended by three hundred persons, to pass along it at the same time. Every part of the structure and suspension chains being subsequently examined, not the slightest indication of yielding or weakness could be detected either in the iron, wood, or stone-work. It is pleasing to add, on the testimony of M. Chaley, that the whole of this construction was completed not only without the loss of life but without even a serious accident to any workman employed in its execution. The communication between Bern and Fribourg, and the rest of German Switzerland, which was formerly by a long steep, and winding road down the valley, totally impassable in winter and dangerous at all times, has at last been remedied by a work which may well challenge the admiration of Europe.

Various hermitages, cut out of the rock, are shown in the neighbourhood of this orthodox city. That of St Magdalen is particularly celebrated in the country. It was excavated in the living rock in the seventeenth century, and consists of a church, a convent, and various apartments. The belfry is eighty feet high, and the chimney of the confectory ninety, it was a work of vast labour. The hermit, it is said, fully intended to have continued his excavations, but while conveying home in his boat some young people who had come to celebrate the fete of St Anthony with him, they all perished on the 17th of January, 1708.

The prefecture of Morat, as already stated, is Protestant, and one of the most fertile and best cultivated in the canton. The inhabitants pursue an excellent system of agriculture, and exhibit the happy fruits of industry in all their domestic economy. This district has particular attractions for the picturesque traveller. On a rising ground overlooking the hamlet of Villars is a linden tree, thirty six feet in diameter, and ninety feet in height. Protected by the shadow of this monarch of the forest, the tourist commands an uninterrupted view over the lakes of Morât, Bienne, and Neuchâtel—the finest of its kind in Switzerland.

About a league from Morat formerly stood the Ossuary, a chapel forty four feet long by fourteen broad, containing the bones of the Burgundians slain in the famous battle of 1476. This sanctuary, or trophy, was burnt by the French army in 1798, who viewed it as a monument that reflected upon the ancient heroism of Burgundy—a province which had contributed in later times to the invincible legions of France. It is now replaced by a handsome obelisk, fifty six feet high with this inscription, "*Victoriam 22 Jun 1476, patrum concordia partam, novo signat lapide Respublica Friburgensis, 1822*".

In passing the town of Estavayer, remarkable for the striking beauty of its position, the tourist will naturally revert to its melancholy fate. The chateau was formerly the residence of the family of that name, which has subsisted for a thousand years in the country. In October 1475, the town, then in the height of prosperity, was stormed by the combined Swiss, when its garrison of three hundred men, and all the citizens, were put to the sword, the citadel

\* Part of the 75 h demi brigade present on this occasion were Burgundians; and when the Ossuary was destroyed they erected in its place a "tree of liberty" with much military parade accompanying it with flourishes of bugles and shouts of victory—"Of these relics," says Lord Byron—"who so aptly compares Morat to Marathon—"I ventured to bring away as much as may have made the quarter of a hero; for which the sole excuse is that, if I had not the next passer by might have perverted them to a worse use than the careful preservation I intend for them." The largest of these bones which we have seen are a femur and submaxillary bone picked up on the spot by John Strachan, Esq Teignmouth, who is also in possession of an interesting MS. account of the Battle of Morat.

Duke of Burgundy, which was deserted at their advance. But the Swiss, without halting, continued the pursuit, and put to the sword all who fell into their hands. Among the Burgundians, the disorder was so sudden and complete, that many in terror and despair threw themselves into the lake, the whole banks of which were covered with them so that they could not be counted. Many noble seigneurs, superbly equipt and mounted, plunged into the lake, thinking by the strength and spirit of their steeds to swim across. They were seen to throw down their arms, ornaments, badges of honour, and every thing else of which they could divest themselves to aid the chance of saving their lives. But those who were not slain, after having long buffeted the waves, perished by a miserable death, and were thus swallowed up. It was a truly pitiable spectacle to see so many gallant and high born knights floundering and sinking in the dark waters, which were now chafed into a storm by the desperate struggles of men and steeds. But their pride,' continues the chronicler, "had well merited a death of such disgrace and humiliation. Let all good people of Bern, therefore, eschew heedless pride, and remain steadfast in their obedience to the commandments of God, the due observance of which will make all things to prosper in their hands. Besides these, others also were found perched upon trees, which they had climbed in the moment of panic, and thus, says the same authority, "from fear learned they to fly without feathers. Among them were found many females completely armed, but the moment their sex was made known they were respected and put out of danger. The Bernese and their allies, with all their banners displayed, remained in possession of the Duke's camp, in which was much gold and silver, and much princely apparel. But these fell chiefly into the hands of rogues and other camp followers in the rear—the fighting men having had all the glory, but very little of the plunder.

We now proceed on our route towards Avenches. During the Roman sway in Helvetia, many splendid buildings bore testimony to the high encouragement given to the arts, and the partiality shown by these civilizing conquerors for the hills and valleys they had colonized. Accustomed to a life over which the arts had thrown a refining lustre, they imparted their taste to the rude Helvetians—built cities and towns—connected them by military roads—introduced the vines and fruit trees of Italy—instructed the people in various branches of trade, arts and sciences, till, under their fostering auspices they had raised them to a degree of refined enjoyment to which their warlike ancestors had been entire strangers.

Among the cities which more especially indicated the prosperous state of the country during this period, we have already noticed Vindonissa, to which



Aventicum, the reputed birth place of Vespasian, was only second as the capital of a populous and flourishing colony. These repositories of Roman taste and luxury were embellished, in imitation of their Italian models, with palaces, castles, temples, baths, and theatres, and every other monument which could perpetuate the sway or flatter the vanity of their founders. But as these cities had a common origin, so, after a time, they were prostrated by a common enemy—the Goth and the Vandal, like the wild boar in the vineyard, laid waste their beauty, and levelled their palaces with the ground—*Nunc seges est ubi Troja fuit*.\* The city of Aventicum appears to have been at least ten times more extensive than the present Avenches, which partly occupies its site. At that period, the lake of Morat\* bathed its walls, and was called *lacus Aventicensis*. A company of boatmen, *navæ*, were established in this ancient city, and the rings for attaching the boats, fixed in its walls—which were to be seen there only a century ago—prove that the lake not only surrounded a portion of the ancient capital of Helvetia, but that it also communicated with those of Bienne and Neuchâtel. Of the latter fact there can be no doubt, for even so late as 1816, after a continuation of heavy rains, these three lakes—otherwise completely separated—formed one magnificent sheet of water.

The fate of Aventicum is intimately connected with that of Vindonissa, but rendered famous by one of those episodes which too frequently spring up with the bitter fruits of war and oppression, and which, from its dramatic character, is here entitled to notice. The turbulent soldiery of Vindonissa, and other garrisons, having, in violation of all subordination, seized on the money destined to pay

\* There is a curious circumstance respecting the lake of Morat, which has afforded good foundation for popular superstition—namely the deep-red colour which its waters sometimes assume, a phenomenon occasioned by the *Cassia purpurea pelagiosa*—an aquatic plant which floats on its surface—"blushing like the blood of the Burgundians."

† *Of course lines on the subject of Morat—as well as the fine stanzas by Byron—are probably familiar to most of our readers. We subjoin the former:—*

" Je vois la Liberté répandant tous ses biens,  
Descendre de MORAT en habit de guerrière  
Les maux te nés du sang des fiers Autrichiens.  
Et de CHARLES LE TEMPLAIRE.  
Devant elle on porta ces piques et ces dards  
On traîna ces canons, ces échelles fatales,  
Qu'elle-même brisa quand ses maux triomphaient.  
De MORAT en danger défendit les remparts.  
Tout un peuple la suit, sa vaive allégresse  
Fit tout l'Appennin répéter ses clameurs;  
Leurs fronts sont couronnés de ces fleurs que la Cécé  
Aux champs de MARATHON prodigua aux vainqueurs.

the garrison of Baden, composed of Helvetians, the latter, to avenge the robbery, rashly intercepted the messengers and letters of Aulus Cæcina, governor of Vindonissa, who was no sooner apprised of the fact, than he determined to punish them with unrelenting vengeance. With this view, he placed himself at the head of his "furious" legions—the epithet by which they were distinguished—and proceeded to storm the fortress and town of Baden. This done, he laid waste the adjacent country, defeated the Helvetians in a sanguinary battle, and chased the fugitives into the recesses of the Jura, where, in their flight down the mountain, thousands perished in a charge of Thracian cavalry. A few saved themselves in the forests and caves, but all who fell into the hands of their pursuers were sold as slaves. Still, however, the fury of Cæcina was not appeased, and he continued his devastations to the walls of Aventicum. In this city lived Julius Alpinus, a Helvetian by descent, and possessing great wealth and consideration in the place. Him, therefore, the implacable Roman commanded to be seized as an instigator of the revolt, loaded him with chains, and sentenced him to suffer death by torture. In vain did numberless witnesses attest his innocence, in vain did his daughter, Julia Alpinula, a priestess of the goddess Aventia, throw herself at the inexorable warrior's feet and implore for mercy. Neither her tears, her beauty, nor her virtues, could avert the blow. The heart of the inflexible Cæcina was steeled against all supplication, and the old man, his victim, was doomed to perish by a cruel and ignominious death. His daughter died shortly after of a broken heart, at the age of twenty-three. The sepulchral inscription,\* a precious relique, which recorded her unhappy fate, has lately been transferred to some private English cabinet. The subject, as the reader is aware, has acquired additional celebrity by its pathetic introduction into the third canto of *Childe Harold* †.

Avenches was finally overthrown in the fifth century, and in common with that mighty empire under whose auspices it had flourished from the commencement

\* JULIA ALPINULA HIC JACEO INFELICIS PATRIS, INFELIX PROLES, DEÆ AVENTIÆ SACERDOS  
LUXURARE PATRIS NECEM NON POTUI MALE MORI IN PATRIS ILLE ERAT VIXIT ANNOS XXIII

† And there—oh sweet and sacred name!  
Julia—the daughter—the devoted—gave  
Her youth to heaven; her heart beneath a clasp  
Nearest to heaven's broke o'er a father's grave  
Julius is sworn against tears and her would grave  
The life she lived in; but the Judge was just  
And then she died on him she could not save!  
Their tomb was simple and without a bust  
And held with its return one mind—one heart—one dust."

the garrison of Baden, composed of Helvetians; the latter, to avenge the robbery, rashly intercepted the messengers and letters of Aulus Cæcina, governor of Vindonissa, who was no sooner apprised of the fact, than he determined to punish them with unrelenting vengeance. With this view, he placed himself at the head of his "furious" legions—the epithet by which they were distinguished—and proceeded to storm the fortress and town of Baden. This done, he laid waste the adjacent country, defeated the Helvetians in a sanguinary battle, and chased the fugitives into the recesses of the Jura, where, in their flight down the mountain, thousands perished in a charge of Thracian cavalry. A few saved themselves in the forests and caves; but all who fell into the hands of their pursuers were sold as slaves. Still, however, the fury of Cæcina was not appeased, and he continued his devastations to the walls of Aventicum. In this city lived Julius Alpinus, a Helvetian by descent, and possessing great wealth and consideration in the place. Him, therefore, the implacable Roman commanded to be seized as an instigator of the revolt; loaded him with chains, and sentenced him to suffer death by torture. In vain did numberless witnesses attest his innocence; in vain did his daughter, Julia Alpinula, a priestess of the goddess Aventia, throw herself at the inexorable warrior's feet and implore for mercy. Neither her tears, her beauty, nor her virtues, could avert the blow. The heart of the inflexible Cæcina was steeled against all supplication; and the old man, his victim, was doomed to perish by a cruel and ignominious death. His daughter died shortly after of a broken heart, at the age of twenty-three. The sepulchral inscription,\* a precious relique, which recorded her unhappy fate, has lately been transferred to some private English cabinet. The subject, as the reader is aware, has acquired additional celebrity by its pathetic introduction into the third canto of *Childe Harold*.†

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LXORARE PATRIS NECEM NON POTUI MALE MORI IN FATIS ILLI ERAT VIXI ANNOS XXIII

† " And there—oh, sweet and sacred name!  
Julia—the daughter—the devoted—gave  
Her youth to heaven; her heart, beneath a claim  
Nearest to heaven's, broke o'er a father's grave!  
Justice is sworn 'gainst tears, and hers would crave  
The life she lived in, but the judge was just,  
And then she died on him she could not save!  
Their tomb was simple, and without a bust,  
And held within their urn one mind—one heart—one dust."

of the christian era, became at last the prey of those northern barbarians whose progress was marked by the extinction of every science save that of the sword. At present this ancient capital hardly contains three hundred houses, but in the wide area it once occupied, enough still remains to confirm the record of its primitive glory. The antiquary will find "sermons in us & ones," and the philosopher much weighty matter for his consideration.

The country through which we advance to Pavane is exceedingly fertile and well cultivated. The town is of Roman origin, and, like those already mentioned, was destroyed at the fall of the empire. A rich and celebrated abber of Benedictines was founded here in the tenth century by Queen Bertha. Under the patronage of this establishment, the town recovered a portion of its early importance, but at the Reformation—such are the vicissitudes attendant on all earthly things—the abbey church was converted into a granary. The convent, after having served as the residence of the governor, or bailiff, appointed by Bern, is now an extensive boarding-school. In October 1817, a tomb was discovered, which is supposed to be that of Queen Bertha, the foundress. On the bridge over the Brone is a stone with a Roman inscription—but which though some have pretended to decipher it, is a subject of more conjecture.

Yverdun has acquired more celebrity as the residence of Peralozzi, and the scene of his philanthropic labours, than from any other circumstance to which it can lay claim. But, independently of this, the district abounds in picturesque scenery. The town is well built, very agreeably situated in a plain at the southern extremity of the lake of Neuchâtel, and extending along the mouth of the river Thièle, which at its entrance into the lake, forms a commodious harbour. From this port we are told that, in 1826, a vessel, laden for the English market, passed successively through the lakes of Neuchâtel and Bienne and, descending the innumerable windings of the Aar and Rhine, deposited its cargo in the London Docks, having performed a voyage which constitutes an epoch in the history of modern navigation. The site of Yverdun was well known to the Romans by the name of Embrodunum, and passed successively under the dominion of the kings of Burgundy and dukes of Zarnhen.\* Vestiges of its ancient walls still attest the original importance to which it lays claim. But the various calamities which it had undergone as the scene of pestilence—inundations from the lake—the devastations of war and repeated conflagrations—

\* About the middle of the thirteenth century it fell into the hands of Peter of Savoy by whom it was considerably enlarged. After a century passing under Swiss and Savoy dominion, it became finally subject to Bern in 1334, to which confederation it continued to thrive till the late memorable epoch, when Bern itself became a tributary of France.

checked its prosperity, and diminished its once crowded population. At the commencement of the seventeenth century a society, under the name of Caldesque Helvétique, established a printing press in the town, from which improved editions of various standard authors were thrown off—among which, the last was an Encyclopædia. At the present day, Yverdun is one of the most commercial and flourishing towns in the canton. The wines of la Côte, destined for the German portion of the Confederacy, are conveyed hither from the border of the Leman by means of the canal of Entre-Roches; and the river Thiele is covered with boats for extending this traffic by means of the lakes and rivers with which they communicate. Rebuilt nearly at the same time, and on a plan similar to that of the town of Morges, Yverdun presents three great parallel streets, which terminate in a handsome square surrounded with large and commodious edifices. Of these buildings, the most striking are the church and town-hall—both exhibiting the classic proportions of Grecian models, and erected about the beginning of last century. In the same square is the ancient château of Conrad of Zäringen, flanked by four massive towers, and built at the commencement of the thirteenth century. It was in this Gothic fortress that Pestalozzi began the practical illustrations of his admirable system.\*

Yverdun is distinguished for its public institutions. The hospital, college, and public library, are all on a liberal scale; the latter, supported by voluntary contributions, contains also an interesting museum of Roman antiquities. Two benevolent societies do further honour to the citizens—the one for affording pecuniary assistance to the poor; the other supported by charitable ladies, for providing food and clothing to the aged or infirm, and work for all who are willing and able to earn their own subsistence. The object of both is the suppression of mendicity—an object in which they have nearly succeeded. This town, occupying a space between the two branches of the Thiele.

\* It is pleasing to reflect that, after the revolutionary war of 1799, in which the small cantons suffered so many disasters, the Helvetic Directory confided to this illustrious friend of humanity—previously known by his literary productions—the education of the orphans at Stantz. This school being destroyed, the government offered him the castle of Berthoud, where the peculiar advantages of his system became speedily known. Four years later, his labours were transferred to the castle of Buchen, near Hofwyl, on which the kindred labour of Fellenberg had already conferred a just celebrity. These true benefactors of their species, by a community of sentiment and pursuit, became intimately attached to each other so as to combine, in some measure, the admirable establishments under their direction. This, however, lasted but a short time, for in 1805 Pestalozzi was destined to return to Yverdun, where, ably seconded by the enlightened views of government and the municipal authorities, he continued in the ardent pursuit of his philanthropic system. Teachers from various countries were sent by their governments to study under Pestalozzi, and were thus enabled to introduce his system into their own schools. An institution on the same plan for young ladies has been long established at Yverdun, the results of which have been attended with eminent success.



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communicates with the suburbs by several bridges. The environs, which are exceedingly agreeable, and embellished with elegant villas and summe rhouses, present many delightful walks. From these the stranger will derive a lively picture of life as it passes in Yverdon, to which the politeness and hospitality of its inhabitants have given peculiar attractions.

The small town of Grandson is very pleasantly situated on the borders of the lake. In its little harbour a rock is shown, which, during the Roman occupation, is supposed to have been consecrated to the worship of Neptune. The church, situated in the upper part of the town, and formerly attached to a priory of Benedictines, is remarkable for its ancient architecture. It was one of the first sanctuaries in the country from which FAREL divulged the doctrines of the Reformation.

The Castle of Grandson, situated on an eminence so as to command the town and lake, was the ancient fortress of the barons of that name. Thus illustrious family, which had furnished some chivalrous knights to the Crusades, and a bishop to Lausanne, continued to flourish till the end of the thirteenth century, when it became extinct in the person of the gallant Otho, who fell in a *juridical* duel with Gerard of Estavayer. Thence passing to the house of Châlons, the latter kept possession of it till the Burgundian war in 1476, when it was taken by the Swiss. The facts are briefly these.—Having crossed the Jura, Charles the Bold on arrival found his troops in possession of Yverdon, but the castle, which was defended by a courageous troop of Bernese, resisted all his efforts. On his appearance before Grandson, its intrepid little garrison braved his utmost fury, and remained firm amidst the uninterrupted fire kept up against the citadel. At last, highly indignant at being detained ten days before this insignificant fortress, he issued orders to carry it by storm, threatening, that if the Swiss made any further resistance, he would have them all hung. This menace, which tried the courage of many, overcame that of the dastardly Captain Wyler. A knight of Burgundy, who could converse in the German language, arrived at the same time from the duke's camp, and expressing his admiration of their courage, declared that his master respected it no less. "Cease," said he, "your gallant but mad resistance—spare this wanton effusion of heroic blood—and, in the name of his highness, I hereby promise you an unmolested and honourable retreat! Duped by the crafty knight, the Swiss accepted the terms of capitulation, and, presenting him with a hundred florins in return for his humane interposition in their favour, began to evacuate the citadel. No sooner, however, had they passed the gates, than the Duke had them all seized, stripped, and suspended by hundreds on the adjoining trees.

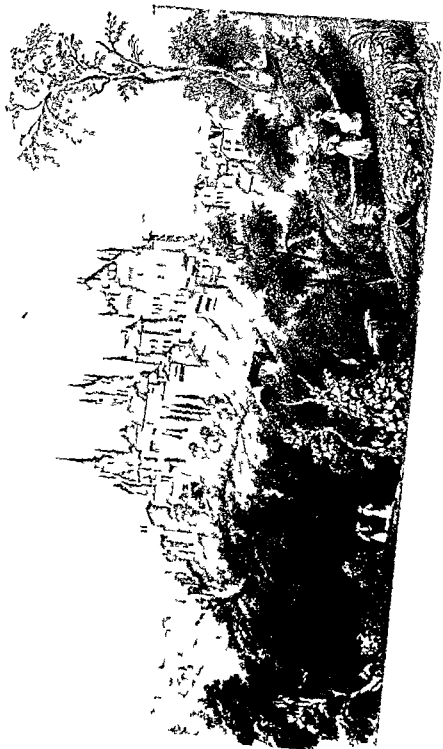
Others were cruelly fettered with cords, and dragged to death through the lake

Exasperated at these atrocities, and undismayed by the vast superiority of the Duke's forces, the Confederates despatched twenty thousand men by forced marches to Grandson. At day-break, on the third of March, the vanguard of the army, consisting of the soldiers of Lucern, Schwytz, and the Bernese Oberland, presented themselves on the vine clad hills between the lake of Neuchâtel and the Jura. After a short interval spent in prayer, they commenced the attack. The soldiers of Fribourg and Bern advanced firmly and in good order—the former led on by the veteran, John of Halwyl, and the Bernese by their chief magistrate, Nicholas of Scharnachthal. This advanced guard had already maintained a sanguinary but unflinching conflict of several hours, when the main body of the Confederates appeared on the heights in the brilliant mid day sun. The shrill sound of the bugle of Unterwalden, and the deep hollow roar of the horn of Uri, pealed their war notes along the mountain, and the next instant the standards of Zurich and Schaffhausen were seen waving in the air. The Duke eagerly demanded, "What troops are these?" "They are the troops," replied the baron of Stein, "before whom the Dukes of Austria have fled." Charles glanced his eye rapidly over the scene of combat—then to the advancing columns—and turning to Stein, observed "If a mere handful of men have resisted us through a whole day, what have we to hope for against their combined strength?" He paused, as if waiting for an answer, but his own troops, who had caught sight of the fresh armament, already welcomed by shouts from their comrades, were seized with dismay and fled. In vain the Duke threw himself into the midst of them, he could neither rally the scattered nor retard the flying, but in his efforts to renew the combat was hurried away in the retreat. The Swiss continued the pursuit till darkness compelled them to desist, but when they arrived at Grandson, and beheld the dead bodies of those who had been hung on the surrounding trees, their vengeance knew no bounds, and they rushed in a body to storm the castle. The Burgundians, who felt their incapacity to make any effectual resistance, surrendered at the first summons, and were all hung up without mercy on the very trees from which the Swiss had cut down the dead bodies of their comrades.

In our progress towards Lausanne, it is impossible not to be struck with the high state of cultivation which pervades every stage of the route—particularly as we approach the borders of the classic Lemman. But of the general beauty and fertility of this canton we have already spoken in our passage of the Jura, and now that our limits are peculiarly circumscribed, and the tour







fast drawing to its close, we can only touch upon those topics, and points of scenery, for which the historian, the poet, and painter, have severally recorded a long-established partiality. The view which, perhaps, embraces the greatest number of striking objects in the Pays-de-Vaud, is the signal station above Lausanne. After a short but steep ascent from the little solitary glen where the national pastime of rifle shooting is practised, we enter the forest of Sauvabelin, and, taking the path to the left, arrive at the Signal. The extraordinary combination of scenery, in every possible variety, and in the most striking contrasts, over which the view extends, is scarcely to be imagined by those who have not penetrated within the curtain of the Jura. The vast sheet of the Leman lake is seen through its whole expanse, framed in, and reflecting like a mirror the Alps of Savoy, Vaud, and the Vallais. On the east, they form a gloomy girdle of gigantic summits, terminating in the mountain bulwarks of Fribourg, thence, veering gently to the south and south west, the wild and snow-clad precipices of Savoy, with their rocky flanks bulging out into pine forests, or smooth with verdant pasture—chalets sprinkled along their acclivities, and vineyards mantling their base, fascinate the eye and feast the imagination of the spectator. Farther still, and in the extreme west, the blue verge of the Jura, rising apparently from the lake, and usurping the place of the Alps, forms the northern boundary of this sublime and magnificent picture—a picture only to be felt. Directing our eyes along the Swiss shore, it appears indented and divided by the waters of the lake into innumerable bays and promontories, and, although tame compared with the gigantic features of the shore opposite, it is of great beauty, composed of gently undulating hills rising towards the Jura, and softening gradually down into the lake. At our feet, Lausanne displays its cathedral—most part of its public edifices—its beautiful villas opening towards the port of Ouchy and the lake, with Pully, Lutry, and Grandvaux on the left—Montreux, Villeneuve, and Chillon, in the bottom of the picture and the towns of Morges and Aubonne on the right—all names as rich in classical associations as they are beautiful in their position.

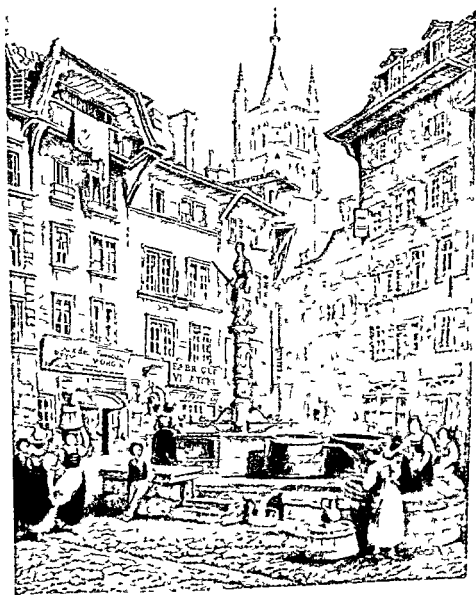
The situation of Lausanne, a few minutes walk from the lake, and crowning an elevated ridge of the Jorat, is proverbially known for the magnificent prospect to which we have just adverted. The town is very irregular in shape, built upon three distinct acclivities—not unlike the old town of Edinburgh—and covering the intermediate valleys or rather ravines. Nearly all its streets are steep and inconvenient, but the salubrity of its climate—the abundant supply of water—the unrivalled amenities of the scenery—the commercial activity of the place—the charms of a cultivated society—and the comparative cheapness

*of every thing that contributes to the comforts and elegances of life, have long conferred on the town and neighbourhood a decided partiality among strangers. The cathedral, which forms so striking a feature in the landscape, was founded by the bishop Henricus, in the year 1000. The work was continued during the two following centuries; but the original plan,*

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In the centre of the Place de la Palud, is the Town hall, built in 1451, and

\* Among the latest is that of HENRIETTE épouse de STRATFORD CANNING Ambassadeur d Angleterre en Suisse—décédée le 17 ju n 1817. Aussi aimable par son caractère que par sa beauté—brillante de jeunesse—heureuse autant qu'il est permis aux mortels de l'être; et pour cela pas moins prête à entrer dans le ciel, si toutefois l'innocence et une ingénuité peuvent avoir quelque mérite devant Dieu."





surmounted by a clock, but possessing no striking features or peculiarities. Here the magisterial authorities of the district, circle, and commune, hold their sittings, and in another part is the residence of the syndic, or president of the municipality. The other chambers are variously distributed. On the vestibule of this edifice is a marble tablet with a Roman inscription, discovered at Vidy, in 1739. The Place is used as a corn market, but a new and much more extensive one is now in progress.

The College of Lausanne,\* founded at the epoch of the Reformation, in 1537, is a vast square edifice, surrounding an extensive court, and containing a public library and museum—both of which are extremely rich in their several departments. The library, possessing many rare printed works and precious manuscripts, is open to the public three days in the week, and every facility given to second the views of the studious. The Museum, first established in 1820, and occupying three large halls, is amply furnished with specimens from the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms—many of which are curious. Besides these, numerous specimens of art, ancient and modern—paintings and sculpture by native artists who have studied in Italy—medals, and various relics of antiquity found in the ruins of Avenches and other Roman stations within the canton—cabinets of natural history and chemistry, well provided with all the apparatus necessary in a course of lectures—give peculiar advantages to the museum, to which, it is said, an astronomical observatory will shortly be added.

The Château Cantonale, or seat of government, as seen in the annexed engraving, is a large square building, founded in the middle of the thirteenth century by the bishop, John of Cussonay, and finished in seventy years by Guillaume de Challand. Till the epoch of the Reformation this was the domestic fortress of the prince bishops, but thenceforth that of the resident governors of Bern, who made considerable additions to it. It was further enlarged at the commencement of the present century, and again within the last few years. It is now occupied by the great council, and council of state, the court of appeals, and various other public offices. In a hall of this episcopal fortress was formerly a pulpit moving on hinges, so as to mask a secret door which communicated with passages under ground, through which the bishops as usual in those days, could repair to the chapter-house near the cathedral, or

\* The lectures delivered by professors are—in *d viziter* law moral philosophy mathematics astronomy natural history chemistry mineralogy rhetoric and Greek, Latin and French literature—in short, nearly all the usual branches taught in the best universities of Great Britain. In addition to the above several learned foreigners residing at Lausanne are authorized to deliver courses of lectures on subjects for which regular professors have not yet been appointed.



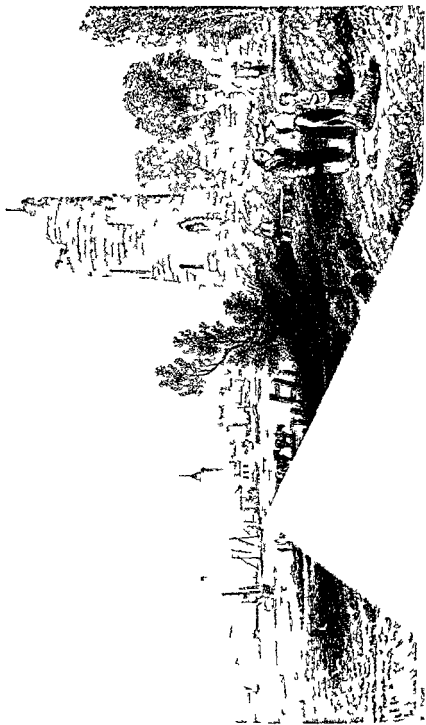
to other convents, as occasion demanded. By this door, according to tradition, Sebastian de Montfaucon, the last bishop, made his escape in 1536, while the château was beleaguered by the troops of Bern. The court of the château is planted with acacias on one side, from whose refreshing shade the eye commands all the striking features of the town, the lake, and the Jura.

But, without dilating on the numerous other objects of various interest which Lausanne abounds, and which will be found minutely described in works more expressly devoted to that subject, we proceed to notice a few prominent features in the immediate neighbourhood, or bordering upon the lake. Of these, one of the most interesting by its associations is the house of Gibbon, on the road to Ouchy, but, like Ariosto's house at Ferrara, or Pope's villa at Twickenham, the residence of the great historian has almost lost its identity, still, as a link in that intellectual chain by which the Lemman lake is encircled, it can never lose its interest, or want visitors. It was in the bosom of this sublime retreat that—

Deep and slow, exhausting thought  
And living wisdom with each studious year—

he continued, and finally completed, that great historical monument which, however unsound in principle, or exceptionable in some of its philosophical deductions, is now a standard authority, and will transmit the author's name to the latest posterity. The passage in which he commemorates the close of his seven years' labour in this intellectual sanctuary, and on a subject to which he had devoted all the resources of deep study and extensive reading, is full of natural feeling\*. The familiar letters, in which Gibbon communicates the every day occupations of his life while resident in this solitude, have acquired a deeper interest as changes have sprung up in the scenery, and in proportion as the gifted individuals of that circle with whom he associated have passed away. No higher compliment could have been paid to this beautiful country and its cultivated society, than the following testimony: "Since my establishment at

\* It was on the night of the 27th of June 1787 and between the hours of eleven and twelve that he wrote the last lines of the last page in a summer house in his garden. "After laying down my pen any I took several turns in a *terrace* or covered walk of acacias which commands a prospect of the country the lake and the mountains. The air was temperate—the sky was serene—the silver orb of the moon was reflected from the waters and all nature was silent. I will not dissemble the first emotions of joy on the recovery of my freedom and perhaps the establishment of my fame, but my pleasure was soon dimmed and a sober melancholy was spread over my mind by the idea that I had then an everlasting leave of an old and agreeable companion and that, whatsoever might be the future date of my history the life of the historian must be short and precarious."



Lausanne," says he; "seven years have elapsed, and if every day has not been equally soft and serene, not a day—not a moment has occurred in which I have repented of my choice."

To these haunted localities must now be added the tomb of John Philip Kemble, the personal friend of Byron—the best interpreter of Shakspeare, a man universally honoured for his public talents, and highly esteemed in all the relations of private life. This object of melancholy attraction is in the public cemetery of Pierre-le-Plan, above the town—a miniature Pere la Chaise. It consists of a plain stone slab inscribed with his name, and surrounded by an iron railing, through which shrubs and flowers entwine a voluntary chaplet, 'fresh as his fame.'

The village of Ouchy, picturesquely situated on the lake, and serving as the port of Lausanne, has greatly risen in importance since the introduction of steam navigation. Two fine vessels—the "*Leman Vaudois*," and the "*Winkelried*," traverse the lake daily between Geneva and Lausanne—receiving and landing passengers along the whole line of the Swiss coast, and on certain days performing the entire circuit of the lake.\* The old tower, seen in the engraving, was built by a bishop of Lausanne so far back as the twelfth century. The quay and its appendages are of modern construction, and with a fleet of boats surrounding the steamers as they arrive or depart, and a host of wheeled vehicles, rival donkeys, runners and drivers, waiting the passengers on shore, the port of Ouchy presents a scene of lively commotion. It was while detained by "stress of weather," at the Anchor Hotel of Ouchy, that Lord Byron composed his "*Prisoner of Chillon*," and where, from his window, he could observe the castle thus immortalized, rising white on the eastern verge of the lake. He visited every locality known in history or tradition—particularly the retreat above described, and in one of his published letters, says—"I enclose you a sprig of 'Gibbon's acacia, and some rose leaves from his garden, which, with part of his house, I have just seen." Moore has well observed, that this circumstance in the life of the immortal bard, has added "one more deathless association to the already immortalized localities of the lake"—

\* For the tourist, whose time may be limited, these boats present an invaluable resource. As I have renewed an acquaintance with them during various trips in the course of last summer, we can recommend them unreservedly to all lovers of pleasing locomotion—but particularly to invalids—as they thus, without fatigue or inconvenience, enjoy the most splendid panorama that was ever thrown open to mortal eye. Every morning during the fine season, these boats separately quit Geneva and Lausanne (the latter to descend west of the lake—both calling off Ouchy—the former about two o'clock, and the other about nine—varying, however, as to precise time, which is influenced by the ensuing varieties of wind and tide, and the disembarking by the way. Each vessel has an excellent restaurant on board, and an ample supply for every variety of taste.

' Rousseau, Voltaire, our Gibbon, and de Staël—  
Leman! these names are worthy of thy shore!

A new road has been lately constructed between Lausanne and the village of Paudex, sweeping by a gradual descent along the declivity, through a succession of luxuriant vineyards. It commands delicious views of the lake—the rocks of Meillerie, Vevay, Clarens, Montreux, Chillon, and those spell-bound localities which Rousseau's *Héloïse* and the poetry of Byron have peopled with creations that haunt the traveller's imagination, and seem to become embodied in the scene. Each of the localities here enumerated is remarkable for the beauties which Nature has bestowed upon it, no less than for the fascinations which it has been enriched by genius. For many years past the environs have served as the intellectual rendezvous of foreigners, who can derive the advantages of a genial climate with the charms of cultivated scenery.

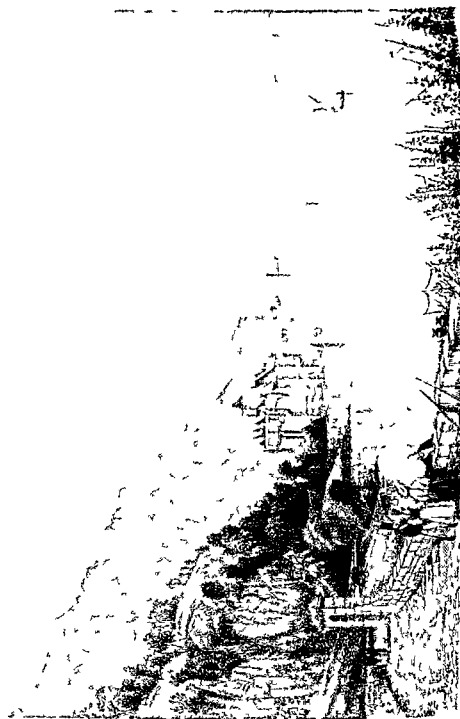
' 'Twas not for fiction chose Rousseau this spot,  
Peopling it with allusions, but he found  
It was the scene which passion must allot  
To the minds purified beings."

Another of the localities which has lately become familiar to us of a celebrated American author,\* is the ancient château of Blonay—half a league from the lake. This baronial fortress is of great antiquity, famous in the annals of chivalry, and continued in possession of the same family for upwards of seven hundred years. In the same commune of Blonay, and in the profound valley of Villars, are the Baths of Alliez. They came first into repute in the sixteenth century, but were subsequently forgotten, till brought once more into fashion by scientific recommendation, and the new luxury of commodious baths. The water is strongly impregnated with sulphur.

At Vevay exists the well known society entitled the *Ablaye des Vignerons*, which, from the remotest times, has superintended the labours of the vineyard, with the motto—*Ora et labora*. The most active and experienced of its members are selected every spring to make a general survey of the vineyards belonging to the commune—to report the condition of each—when the society distributes a variety of premiums in the shape of medals, *serpes d'honneur*, or pruning implements, to all the vine dressers who have set the best example in the management of the grape. Previously to the Revolution, these prizes were distributed with great pomp at a curious fete got up for the occasion, and which was repeated

\* See *The Headsman* by Cooper which, with various others contains an admirable description of a storm in the lake of Geneva.







every five or six years. After an interruption of twenty-two years, caused by political events, and a series of bad seasons for the wine-growers, this fête was resumed on the fifth of August, 1819, in all its ancient pomp and ceremony. On this occasion, the village population of Vevey was suddenly increased by an influx of more than sixteen thousand spectators from all parts of the Confederacy, and of whom no inconsiderable number was English. The fête presented a most grotesque, but interesting medley of heathen ceremony, scriptural scenes from the Old Testament, mixed up with customs still observed in the canton, the whole accompanied with processions, dances, songs, banquets, and dramatic exhibitions, in which were upwards of seven hundred performers in appropriate and generally very elegant costumes, according to the part assigned to them.

The ceremonies commenced with that of crowning the twelve most successful cultivators of the vine, after which a magnificent procession defiled past, consisting of Ceres, Pomona, Bacchus, &c, all most sumptuously and classically attired, borne in elegant cars by their appropriate attendants, priests, bacchanals, &c, followed by gardeners, vine-dressers, reapers, haymakers, plough men, and herdsmen, in perfect costume—each set bearing the implements of their labour, of which they gave pantomimic representations, mingled with national songs and dances. The ground was kept by a hundred fine looking men, dressed and accoutred *à la Henri Quatre*, in the becoming style of the *Cent Suisses*. Little girls, fancifully dressed, danced like faunes before the several goddesses, milkmen from the mountains, leading their cows, sang the *Ranz-des-Vaches*, while the pleased animals licked the hands that led them during the well known sound. But the most grotesque feature of the scene, was old father Noah, with his family, in a vine-clad cottage, drawn, as were also a forge and a wine press, by four horses richly caparisoned. The whole closed with a village wedding, in which the dresses preserved faithfully the ancient Swiss costume, while a baron and baroness in the most exaggerated dress of the last century, walked a minuet to grace their vassals nuptials, in a style of admirable burlesque. All the songs composed for the occasion were, of course, in praise of agriculture and its concomitants—peace and liberty, and the concurrence of free and happy peasantry assembled on the occasion afforded the most appropriate illustration to their patriotic effusions.\*

Of the Castle of Chillon a very brief notice will here suffice. For, perhaps, there

\* The reader will find an ample detail of the scenes and ceremonies exhibited at this singular festival, in the *Feuilles d'Agriculture du Canton de Vaud*, tome vi. p. 21\* and in the popular English work of *Delays in Search of a Daughter*—Of the Salt mines of Evex referred to at p. 179 the reader will find an interesting account in the *Manuel Statistique de Lausanne*, p. 13\*



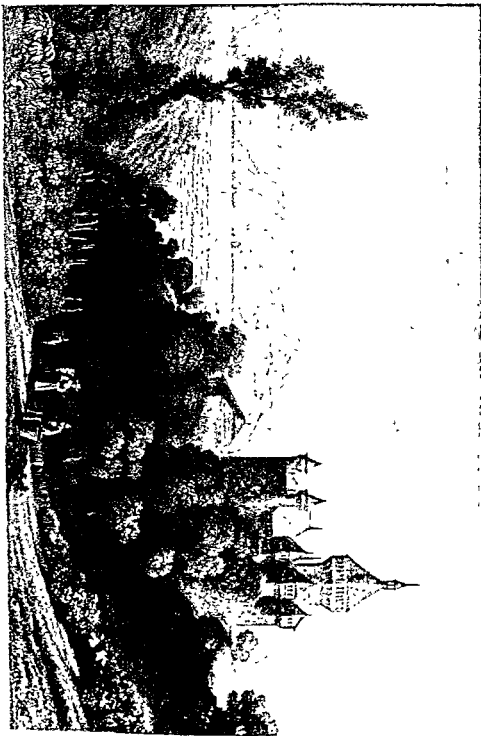
is no similar feature of continental scenery with which the English reader is more familiarly acquainted. It has a place in the portfolio of every tourist, and painter, and troubadour—in every drawing room album—and is the title of a poem, which—when the chateau itself shall have crumbled down into the lake—will insure by its own immortality that of Chillon. The castle consists of a large irregular mass of buildings, surrounding a central square tower, which, till the invention of artillery, was considered impregnable, and served in no inconsiderable degree to extend the limits of Savoy. It was near this point that, in 1275, the Count Philip, by a fortunate exploit, gained possession of the whole Pays de Vaud. Two centuries and a half later, the Bernese, assisted by a hundred friends from Geneva, seized this fortress from Charles V. of Savoy. The commandant of Rye, who was charged with its defence, seeing himself blockaded by land and water, made little resistance, and a large Savoyard bark, which had come to his aid, having fled at the approach of four boats from Geneva, he capitulated on the third day of the siege. Besides immense booty, the victors found in the château several prisoners of distinction, among whom was the celebrated Bonivard, the “Prisoner of Chillon,” who six years before had been treacherously seized and shut up in its dungeons.

Next to Chillon, the Chateau of Wuffliens is the most striking edifice in the Pays de Vaud\*. It is of spacious dimensions, and highly picturesque in its Gothic towers and commanding position. The walls are built entirely of brick, of immense thickness, and appear to have been constructed, according to antiquaries, by Bertha, queen of Burgundy, who, as already stated, founded the rich Benedictine abbey of Payerne, in 961. The principal part of this ancient structure consists of an enormous square *doujon* in the centre, one hundred and seventy feet in height, and flanked at each angle by others in a similar style, but of much smaller dimensions. These five towers were long considered as of Roman construction, but various heraldic devices sculptured upon them, fix the epoch of their erection to the period already stated, or at farthest to the ninth century. This chateau forms a magnificent feature in the landscape, and commands the whole range of the lake, the mountains of the Vallais, and the gigantic summits of Mont Blanc.

The plate with which we close the present work represents the Hospice of the Great St. Bernard founded in 962, and the highest inhabited spot in the old world†. This celebrated Augustin monastery occupies the summit of the pass.

\* In 1832 the population of this canton was 143,200; but a later estimate raises it to 1,000. The military contingents are 964 men and 592,3 francs in money. The colours of the canton are dark green and white with the motto—*Liberté et Paix*.

† For an interesting epitome of its history ancient and modern see *Brooketon & Farnes*.





leading into Piedmont, and serves as the well known asylum of all travellers whom curiosity or business may attract to that elevated region. The establishment had formerly a vast revenue attached to it, but which, in recent times, has been so greatly diminished, as to render annual collections in the adjoining countries indispensable for its support.

It is placed on the extreme frontier of the Vallais, directly in the gorge, and overlooking a small lake. The number of the Brethren is not fixed, it varies from twenty to thirty, but it is rare that more than ten or twelve reside in the Hospice. They live in the midst of continual privations, at an elevation of eight thousand two hundred feet above the sea, and exposed at once to the effects of a rigid climate, and the dangers which by the rules of their order they are bound to encounter at all hours in the service of humanity. \* Their office is to receive, lodge, and supply with necessary food, all travellers who pass the Great St. Bernard. They are bound, also, during the seven or eight dangerous months of the year, to inspect the roads daily. The famous dogs of the convent, which are trained to this duty, have often been the means of restoring to life the exhausted and half frozen traveller. Many interesting anecdotes are recorded of their sagacity, and the noble breed, we were glad to observe, still forms a considerable colony for the relief of future wanderers. Should any accident happen to the traveller, he is retained in the convent till perfectly recovered, and then, if in need, dismissed with sufficient means to carry him on his journey. All this hospitality is bestowed without charge of any kind, and continued where the traveller chooses to prolong his stay, for several days. The only recompense accepted is in the form of voluntary offerings, deposited in a box in the chapel, and to which it is hoped, no traveller in easy circumstances passes the Great St. Bernard without contributing something in token of his gratitude. The winter in this region lasts full eight or nine months, and during the coldest period, the thermometer of Fahrenheit has been often observed at 20° and on one occasion, at 29° below zero. In certain places close to the monastery, the snow never melts.

Every year, seven or eight thousand travellers in their passage of the Alps are received and hospitably entertained by these worthy monks.

\* " Leur loi répoit à égale leur vigilance; aucun malheureux ne les supplie en vain. Ils le retiennent étouffé sous les débris des avalanches. Ils le raniment agonisant de froid et de terreur. Ils le transportent sur les bras, tandis que leurs pieds glissent sur la glace ou plangent dans les neiges. Ils le voient le jour, voilà leur loi; la nuit, leur prière. Leur pierre sainte n'aie seule sur l'humain. Et dans ces lieux maudits de la nature où ils présentent le spectacle habiuel d'un hérétique qui ne sera jamais réde par son sacrifice." The above well-known of tributes was written by Mallet du Pan, in his memoir of the " Figures " of St. Bernard in 1755 and appears in a sequel to those of the present day.

whose strict attention to their various guests and devotion to the cause of humanity are above all praise. Those who perish in the passage by cold or avalanches, are deposited in the charnel-house, where, owing to the dry antiseptic nature of the climate, the features of the unhappy victims may be recognised for two or three years; but after that period the muscles shrink away and blacken, so as to resemble the bodies of Egyptian mummies. When the writer visited the monastery last autumn, this melancholy receptacle contained, happily, no recent victims; but the spoils of mortality with which the floor and walls were still covered, presented an appalling spectacle. To see the Great St. Bernard with any thing like gaiety, the stranger should contrive to be there at the fête of Notre-Dame-d'Août, the fifteenth of August, when hundreds of the peasantry from the Swiss and Italian valleys attend mass at the chapel, and present a thousand amusing contrasts in their national costume and appearance. It may be superfluous to add, that the greatest event in modern times with which this pass is connected, is the march of the French army under Napoleon, in May 1800. Arrived at the summit of this tremendous pass, and when they anticipated nothing but a repetition of dangers and accidents in their descent towards Italy, they beheld, on a sudden turn of the rugged path, "tables covered, as if by magic, with every necessary refreshment. The monks of St. Bernard had prepared the banquet; the army feasted, returned tumultuous thanks, and passed on. A few days after this event, the battle of Marengo decided the fate of Italy."

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*Note.*—It was originally intended that the present volume should have been followed by an Appendix; but to have carried this into effect, would have exceeded the number of divisions to which the work was necessarily restricted; and the Proprietors being anxious not to encumber the work with a mass of mere literary and scientific matter that might have had little or no reference to the engravings, it has been omitted. It is their intention, however, to supply this omission under a new form, and to publish a small "Pocket Itinerary and Tourist's Guide to the Rhine, Switzerland, and Savoy," with which every important subject intended for the Appendix will be incorporated.